

CONFIDENTIAL

File Number

EWA 57/534/01

Part AD

File
Period
1982-
84

Eastern & Western
Africa
Department PS

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

HUMANITARIAN AID :- INCLUDING
FOOD AID AND DISASTER RELIEF
IN ETHIOPIA

Index
Headings

ETHIOPIA

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Related Files

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Cross References

Nominals

OD 53/30

Precedents

DISPOSAL OF FILE — For completion by Departmental Record Officer / Records Section

First Review
completed

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Second Review
completed



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PUBLIC RECORD ACTS 1958 and 1967

When the officer dealing with this file considers that further action on it is unlikely, or when the file is about to be closed at the end of a three-year cycle, the Higher Executive Officer (or officer of higher rank) responsible for the subject should place a note on the file to assist the Departmental Record Officer in the review of the papers.

The criterion to be applied is whether the Department is likely to require the papers again for its own Departmental purposes. This consideration is to be interpreted broadly, to include the likelihood of the papers being required as a precedent or as a guide to possible action in the future.

The note should indicate

- either I. that the papers are unlikely to be needed in the future for Departmental purposes (in this event, the file will probably be destroyed at First Review, ie within 5 years).
- or II. that the file contains papers of longer term importance (in this event the file is likely to be retained at First Review and its disposal reconsidered at Second Review, ie after 25 years).

Points of special note should be mentioned and if *permanent* preservation of the papers would appear to be justified, the reasons should be given.

1147 W/Lamps European Parliament (European Democratic Group) — W/E — N/D.

1148 Min Britton / Osborne ————— 29/10/84

1149 Min Osborne / Banning ————— W/E ————— 29/10/84

1150 Min Osborne / Tichell / PS to Mubaisan — W/E — Ref 1077 — 29/10/84

1150a Extract 'Hansard' — House of Commons ————— 29/10/84

1151 Min McCulloch / PS to Sec of State — W/E — Ref 1077 — 29/10/84

1151a Telex EEC Brussels ————— 29/10/84

1152 Addis Ababa to DOE London — DOE LB 002 ————— 30/10/84

1153 FCO to Addis Ababa — Tel No 262 ————— 30/10/84

1154 FCO to Addis Ababa — Tel No 263 ————— Ref 1120 ————— 30/10/84

1155 FCO to Addis Ababa — Tel No 264 ————— Ref 1129 & 1119 ————— 30/10/84

1155a Extract 'Hansard' — House of Commons ————— 30/10/84

1156 FCO to Addis Ababa — Tel No 265 — 30/10/84.

1157 FCO to Addis Ababa — Tel No 266 — 30/10/84.

1158 Addis Ababa — Tel No 311 — Ref 1128 — 30/10/84.

1158a Addis Ababa — Tel No 312 — 30/10/84.

1159 Addis Ababa — Tel No 315 — Ref 1158 — 30/10/84.

1160 Addis Ababa — Tel No 318 — Ref 1079 — 30/10/84.

1161 Addis Ababa — Tel No 319 — 30/10/84.

1162 Addis Ababa — Tel No 320 — Ref 1080 — 30/10/84.

1163 Addis Ababa — Model U/N — 30/10/84.

1164 Cairo to FCO — Tel No 513 — 30/10/84.

1165 FCO to Cairo — Tel No 361 — Ref 1164 — 30/10/84.

- 1166 Rome — Tel No 739 — Ref 1121 — 30/10/84
- 1167 Rome — Tel No 740 — Ref 1091a & 1073 — 30/10/84.
- 1168 MOO, UK Air to Addis Ababa — 30/10/84
- 1169 Home office (Records Services Section) — W/E — 30/10/84.
- 1170 W/Camps FCO (Near East & North Africa Dept) — W/E — N/D.
- 1171 W/Camps FCO (East African Dept) — W/E — N/D.
- 1172 W/Camps 10 Downing Street — W/E — Ref 1077 — N/D.
- 1173 T. S. Flesher, 10 Downing St. — W/E — 30/10/84.
- 1174 Statement by T. Ransom, to the House of Commons on Famine Relief for Ethiopia

1175 Min Arbutnot / Osborne ——— Ref 1091a → 1081 ——— 30/10/84

1176 Min Faint / Browning ——— W/E ——— 30/10/84.

1177 Australian High Commission (Bensar) ——— W/E ——— 30/10/84.

1178 Min Osborne / McCulloch ——— W/E ——— 30/10/84

1179. Min Hunt / Browning / Tichell / Miss Andrews ——— W/E ——— 30/10/84.

1180 USA Information Service, US Embassy ——— Press Release ——— 30/10/84

1180a Min Mrs Weyeth / Arbutnot ——— O/O EUR 501/57/02 ——— 30/10/84

1181 Min Arbutnot / Osborne ——— Ref 1175 ——— W/E ——— 30/10/84

1182 BE Stockholm (Williams) to FCO (Mackenzie) ——— 30/10/84.

1183 Press Release ODA ——— 30/10/84.

1183a Min ERDC (Smyth) / Osborne ——— → 30/10/84.

1184 Min Mrs Rees / Ms Hanna / Williams / Bittan ——— O/O EUR 502/503/08 ——— 30/10/84

1185 FCO to Sana'a — Tel No 136 ————— 31/10/84.

1186 FCO to Sana'a — Tel No 137 ————— 31/10/84.

1187 Addis Ababa to FCO — Tel No 321 ————— Ref 1155 ————— 31/10/84.

1188 FCO to Addis Ababa — Tel No 267 ————— Ref 1187 ————— 31/10/84.

1189 FCO to Addis Ababa — Tel No 269 ————— Ref 1168 ————— 31/10/84.

1190 Addis Ababa to FCO — Tel No 322 ————— 31/10/84.

1191 Addis Ababa to FCO — Tel No 323 ————— Ref 1156 ————— 31/10/84.

1192 Addis Ababa to FCO — Tel No 325 ————— 31/10/84.

1193 Addis Ababa to FCO — Tel No 326 ————— 31/10/84.

1194 FCO to Addis Ababa — Tel No 270 ————— Ref 1193 ————— 31/10/84.

1195 Addis Ababa ———— Modex 59 ———— 31/10/84.

1196 Addis Ababa — Modex 035 ———— Ref 1163 & 1195 ———— 31/10/84.

1197 Addis Ababa to MOD, UK Air — Tel No SIC 1 UK/ISB ———— 31/10/84.

1198 Addis Ababa to MOD, UK Air — Tel No SIC 1 UK/ISB ———— 31/10/84.

1199 Moscow to Fco — Tel No 1246 ———— 31/10/84.

1200 Canberra to Fco — Tel No 1084 ———— Ref 1127 ———— 31/10/84.

1201 Brussels to Fco — Tel No 264 ———— Ref 1091a ———— 31/10/84.

1202 Luxembourg to Fco — Tel No 347 ———— Ref 1091a ———— 31/10/84.

1203 The Hague to Fco — Tel No 347 ———— Ref 1091a ———— 31/10/84.

1204 East Berlin to Addis Ababa — Tel No 001 ———— 31/10/84.

- 1205 Dublin to Fco — Tel No 592 ————— 31/10/84.
- 1206 Bonn to Fco — Tel No 1021 ————— 31/10/84.
- 1207 UK Rep Brussels to Fco — Tel No 3569 ————— 31/10/84.
- 1208 Telex Save the Children Fund ————— 31/10/84.
- 1209 Telex — Solomon, Ingham ————— 31/10/84.
- 1210 ODA Press Release ————— 31/10/84.
- 1211 Min McCulloch / Osborne ————— 31/10/84.
- 1212 Min Osborne / Brunning / Tickell / Ps to Mr Raison — W/E — 31/10/84.
- 1213 Min Osborne / Tickell ————— 31/10/84.

1214 Min Faint / Osborne — W/E — 31/10/84.

1215 COREPER Commission — Situation Report — Ethiopian Famine — 31/10/84.

1216. USA Information Service, US Embassy Press Release — 31/10/84

1217 The Horn of Africa & Aden Cornial (Fitzgibbon) — 31/10/84
Transferred to EWA57/534/02.

1218 Min Rose / Williams — 31/10/84.

1219 Note on Telephone Message — Buist / Barber — 31/10/84

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1219a W/Camps BHC Wellington (P. Cooper) — W/E — N/D.

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CLOSED
NO FURTHER
ACTION
TO BE TAKEN
IN THIS FILE.
CONTINUED ON

...EWA 57/534/01...AE

1982-84.



With the compliments of

CHANCERY

P Cooper

BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION

WELLINGTON

~~M W Hall~~ ^{W/E} 26/4

RSPB
Inspector

for the Hand

You may wish
to have this on
your files

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27 NOV 1984

E/1219a.

PRESS STATEMENT

31 October 1984

AFRICAN RELIEF

The Government has provided as much financial assistance as can currently be made available from the Aid Vote. The disaster in Africa covers a wide area and not just Ethiopia alone. A total of 24 African countries are affected by drought and famine conditions and against this background the Government's approach has been to provide funds to international agencies which they can use in the areas of greatest need.

This financial year the Government has made grants of \$800,000 to the World Food Programme, \$700,000 to UNICEF and \$200,000 to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. These grants were made available for the agencies to use at their discretion. A significant portion of our contributions to the agencies would have been directed to relief programmes in African countries. In addition the Government last week approved an immediate grant of \$250,000 to the World Food Programme for its relief work in Africa. I understand that earlier this year a special grant of \$100,000 was made to the World Food Programme's Special Action Programme in Africa by the previous Government and these funds have been used to purchase grain for Botswana.

/The

The Government will continue to follow developments in Africa
very closely. Clearly the situation there is grave in the extreme
and I know all New Zealanders will share my view that this country
should do what it can to support the international effort that
is being mounted to relieve the suffering of the people in so
many African countries. I applaud the prompt response from our
community to the various appeals that have been launched by
voluntary agencies including the Churches.

Government expected, on hearing that airlifts had been arranged,
that New Zealand would be expected to evaluate its role in such
an essential mission as the distribution of the food itself.

Accordingly it was considered .

We have looked carefully at the suggestion that we might put a
New Zealand Hercules aircraft at the disposal of the international
relief community to help shuttle food supplies from Europe
to Ethiopia but the costs of doing this are extremely high. The
Americans, the British and other European countries are responding to
this need.

The Government intends to look later in the year at what we
might be able to do by way of additional grant aid for relief in
Africa.

Per [unclear] to LACPD, ODA [unclear].
C 13/11

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TELEPHONE MESSAGE FROM MR BUIST/MR BARDER 13.30 HRS 31 OCTOBER

Best uses of additional EC aid are provision of more cereals in early 85, as well as edible oil and vitamin enriched skimmed milk powder (1:2). Transport assistance also required.

2. Doubts exist over success of existing EC-supported food for work programme. It is in a disturbed area and difficult to assess whether farmer incentives have been effective. Appreciated locally that the programme could not be terminated without difficulty, but the 25,000 tonnes of cereals already scheduled for delivery to the FFW programme should not be regarded as a substitute for relief.

3. Regarding the proposals for use of UK £5m, Addis does not favour supply of 5 x 30 ton trucks to Cafod because the present trucks are of non-British manufacture. Regarding landrovers, Oxfam were not in the list appended to ODA telegram. They require three landrovers and so does SCF; each landrover should have two spare tyres. Regarding drilling rigs, SCF stress that they should be supplied for control, operation and maintenance by the Water Resources Ministry. The RRC does not have the capacity to use them effectively. They are intended for deployment in Wollo where SCF is establishing new feeding centres.

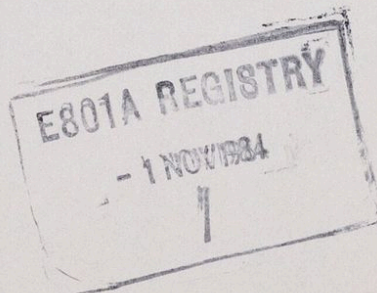
4. Urgent that as many as possible of the heavy duty tents (with groundsheets) to form 50-tonne local grain stores should be despatched by first flights. The 100-tonne store(s) is less urgent.

Coordination

5. WFP is already playing a coordinating role in liaison with the Undro representative. Useful meeting held this morning in Addis revealed that a port survey team and an FAO crop assessment team are on their way. Trucking requirements would be affected by the local harvest due in November and December. The diversion of trucks to collect this harvest, however meagre, would undoubtedly exacerbate transportation of relief supplies. The EC might well direct its attention to supplementing trucks and spares stocks.

6. WFP/Undro should be used as the single point of coordination. It would confuse matters if the EC delegation were to first coordinate member states relief aid. Coordination should have as few layers as possible.

File



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Handwritten signature

For 57/534/01

Handwritten signature
1/14/84

1218

Mr ~~B~~ A Williams

FROM: MR P T ROSE

DATE: 31 October 1984

cc. ✓ Dr Osborne

We have received over 300 postcards, addressed to the Minister, inscribed "Please release the EEC surpluses to Ethiopia" or a para-phrase of this.

2. As discussed, perhaps you could approve the following draft:

"You will be interested to hear that, in 1984, the European Community has delivered or assigned 117,000 tonnes of cereals and 8000 tonnes of other products to Ethiopia at a total cost of over £25 million.

On 31st October, the Community allocated another £19.2 million to Ethiopia; proposals for further assistance are under consideration."

P T Rose
EWAD
31 October 1984



OFFICIAL TEXT

1216

For 57/534/01
A 1/1

Wednesday, October 31st, 1984

UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE, U.S. EMBASSY, 55/56 UPPER BROOK STREET, LONDON W1A 2LH

REAGAN TAKES 'PERSONAL INTEREST' IN AFRICAN DROUGHT

(Text: White House Statement on Ethiopia)

- - - -

Washington -- President Reagan has taken "a personal interest" in the famine situation in Africa, particularly the current crisis in Ethiopia, a White House spokesman said yesterday.

Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes, in a written statement, said that since October 1, 1984, the United States has obligated 45 million dollars in drought assistance for Ethiopia alone. He said this compares to 19 million dollars last year to Ethiopia, which was the largest from any donor country.

U.S. officials will meet in Washington tomorrow with Ethiopia's Relief Commissioner, Dawit Walde Giorgis, to discuss the situation.

Speakes said "the pressing short-term constraint is the distribution of food supplies now in country.

"In our meetings with Ethiopian officials this week," Speakes said, "we will ask for more trucks to be made available, for priority access to port facilities and for assurance that food can reach victims in rebel areas."

Following is the text of Speakes' statement:

As you know, the President has taken a personal interest in the famine situation in Africa, particularly the current crisis in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia's relief Commissioner Dawit Walde Giorgis will be in Washington Thursday, November 1, to meet with U.S. officials involved in the emergency food supply effort, including General Julian Becton, Director, Interagency Task Force on African Hunger, and U.S. Agency for International Development Administrator, M. Peter McPherson.

The president discussed the situation in Ethiopia with Administrator McPherson by telephone Friday, and talked by telephone to Mother Teresa, who has requested U.S. assistance for projects she has undertaken there. The president asked Administrator McPherson to call Mother Teresa and offer additional assistance which he did.

In December 1983, the president asked for a high level interagency study of the worldwide hunger situation. This study was chaired by Ambassador Robert Keating, the president's envoy to Madagascar and Comoros. The president announced on July 10 of this year a major initiative to respond more quickly and effectively to the food needs of the people of Africa and the world suffering from hunger and malnutrition. His five-point program, announced then, includes:

1. The prepositioning of grain in selected Third World areas;
2. The creation of a special 50 million dollar Presidential fund to allow a more flexible U.S. response to severe food emergencies;
3. The financing or payment of ocean and island transportation costs associated with U.S. food aid in special emergency cases;

4. The creation of a government task force to provide better forecasts of food shortages and needs; and

5. The establishment of an advisory group of business leaders to share information on Third World hunger and food production.

In 1984, we have provided more food assistance to Africa than any administration in U.S. history. Our drought assistance for all of Africa last year totaled 173 million dollars which is twice the amount of 1983 assistance and three times the amount of 1982 assistance. For Ethiopia alone in this fiscal year, since October 1, 1984, we have obligated 45 million dollars in drought assistance. This compares to 19 million dollars last year to Ethiopia which was the largest from any donor country.

With regard to the situation in Ethiopia, since October 2 aid to Ethiopia has included:

-- 39 million dollars for the shipment of 80,432 MT of food, one-fourth of which will be delivered to rebel-held areas of Eritria and Tigray;

-- 6.3 million dollars in response to a Red Cross appeal for medicines and supplies;

-- 100,000 dollars for air transport of food to Makele, a central Ethiopian town cut off by frequent clashes along the road from the port.

The pressing short-term constraint is the distribution of food supplies now in country. Limiting factors include the shortage of trucks, poor roads, the insurgency, and the lack of support by the Ethiopian government. To deal with some of these problems we have in recent days been providing gasoline for some Ethiopian government planes to move food in country and are working with some private groups to augment that effort. In our meetings with Ethiopian officials this week, we will ask for more trucks to be made available, for priority access to port facilities, and for assurances that food can reach victims in rebel areas.

For the medium term, Western food aid commitments will keep the pipeline of emergency food full to capacity. Between now and the end of the year, approximately 200,000 metric tons will be arriving. For the longer term, we are developing with private agencies plans for the distribution of an additional 20,000 metric tons, along with medicines, blankets, and other supplies. However, assessments of the need continue to rise, and the medium and long term requirements may increase substantially.

Basic to this whole effort is a more cooperative attitude from the Ethiopian government and the dedication of more of their own resources. They reportedly spent a substantial amount for their Independence Day celebration, but have paid little attention to this problem. There are more than 6,000 trucks under government control for example, but only a few hundred are now available for emergency food shipments. However, we do sense some greater interest from them and we hope our negotiations this week with them will be productive. The president will continue to monitor our relief efforts, and he has asked Administrator McPherson to report new developments to him.

M. Osborne

For information

Mr Wiggall

J. M. Wiggall

2/10

noted

Wiggall 2/11

PL MUFAX

H. S. Williams

PBon 57/534/01

2/11/84

FAMINE EN AFRIQUESituation / Problèmes / Propositions d'actionsen faveur de l'Ethiopie, des pays du Saheldu Kenya, du Soudan et de certains pays d'Afrique AustraleCommunication du représentant de la
Commission au Coreper du 31.10.841. Situation actuelle

Toutes les sources d'informations dont nous disposons (Délégation de la Commission à Addis Abeba, Nations Unies, Croix Rouge, Onus, et s'accordent pour souligner la situation extrêmement grave que connaît l'Ethiopie en raison de la sécheresse et de la situation de conflit dans certaines régions : plus de 6 millions de personnes en sont actuellement frappées (soit environ 15 % de la population totale) et des dizaines voire des centaines de milliers de personnes risquent de mourir de faim dans les semaines à venir.

Dans d'autres pays d'Afrique, notamment dans les pays du Sahel (1), la situation, sans être d'une ampleur comparable, revêt également une gravité exceptionnelle. On peut évaluer entre 2 et 3 millions le nombre de personnes sinistrées dont plusieurs centaines de milliers se déplacent en quête de nourriture et de soins (on peut estimer à jour le nombre de personnes déplacées à 400.000 en Mauritanie, 130.000 au Niger, 150.000 au Tchad, 150.000 au Mali).

La situation actuellement dramatique risque, après un certain répit procuré par la récolte actuelle, de devenir encore pire au début de l'année prochaine, s'agissant notamment de l'Ethiopie, du Tchad et

(1) La situation est aussi très préoccupante dans d'autres pays comme, par exemple, le Mozambique.

du Niger, car les récoltes seront, selon toute probabilité entre 30 et 40 % inférieures à celles de l'année dernière.

2. Aides humanitaires déjà décidées en 1984

Les images insoutenables qui, par la voie de la télévision, ont pénétré dans les foyers d'Europe ont soulevé une émotion considérable auprès de l'opinion publique et des gouvernements. La Communauté n'a pas toutefois attendu pour agir que cette émotion se manifeste. Il faut rappeler, en effet, qu'après être intervenue au Mozambique dès la fin de l'année dernière, la Communauté a mis sur pied en avril 84 un plan d'urgence communautaire pour l'Afrique de près de 80 millions d'Ecus. On peut se demander ce qu'il en serait aujourd'hui si cette initiative n'avait été prise.

Pour l'Ethiopie seule, pour laquelle la Communauté est le premier donateur, le montant des aides humanitaires réalisées ou en cours de réalisation en 1984 s'élève à 43,8 millions d'Ecus dont :

- 38,3 millions d'Ecus au titre de l'aide alimentaire, les quantités livrées depuis décembre 1983 ou restant encore à livrer (cf. annexe) sont les suivantes :
 - . 117.000 tonnes de céréales (dont 35.000 tonnes seront livrées au cours du premier trimestre 1985)
 - . 5.150 tonnes de lait en poudre
 - . 2.790 tonnes de butteroil et d'huile
 - . 100 tonnes de sucre
- 5,5 millions d'Ecus au titre de l'aide d'urgence (transport de secours, semences, matériel pour abris, achat local de vivres, programmes médico-nutritionnels, etc...) (cf. annexe).
- Les Etats membres, pour leur part, ont accordé 30.000 tonnes de céréales d'aide alimentaire (Belgique 8.000 t., Danemark 6.500 t., France 5.400 t., R.F.A. 9.700 t.)

et 2.376.000 Ecus d'aide financière répartie comme suit :

Danemark	250.000 ⁽¹⁾	Ecus
Irlande	430.000	Ecus
Pays Bas	258.000	Ecus
R.F.A.	930.000	Ecus
R.U.	508.000 ⁽¹⁾	Ecus

- autres donateurs :

- . Canada : environ 50.000 tonnes de produits alimentaires.
- . PAM : environ 30.000 tonnes

3. Approvisionnement, goulots d'étranglement, actions souhaitables.

- a) Au cours des trois prochains mois les difficultés d'approvisionnement des pays concernés devraient connaître un certain répit du fait des récoltes actuelles et de l'arrivée des aides alimentaires déjà décidées. C'est ainsi que en plus de 50.000 tonnes d'importations commerciales, 111.000 tonnes d'aide alimentaire en céréales sont attendues en octobre-novembre et décembre au port Ethiopien d'Assab. Cette quantité permet théoriquement de couvrir pendant trois mois l'essentiel des besoins de 6.000.000 de personnes sinistrées (45.000 tonnes par mois environ).
- b) Ceci ne veut pas dire que ces quantités atteindront dans les délais voulus les bénéficiaires finals, car, d'une part, des retards de livraison sont possibles, d'autre part, comme cela a été précisé au cours d'une réunion organisée le 25.10.84 avec des organisations opérationnelles, la distribution des aides se heurte à des goulots d'étranglement qui sont au nombre de trois :
 - l'insuffisante capacité d'absorption du port d'Assab (le port de Massawa n'étant utilisé que pour les secours destinés à l'Erythree) qui ne peut actuellement décharger que 30.000 tonnes par mois.

(1) Plus un montant non identifiable car faisant partie d'un crédit global affecté à l'Ethiopie et à d'autres pays victimes de la sécheresse.

- l'insuffisante capacité d'acheminement par camion qui n'est actuellement que de 15.000 tonnes par mois.
- l'insécurité qui rend difficile, voire impossible, l'acheminement par camion, des secours dans certaines parties du pays.
- c) - L'action prioritaire à mener semble être l'accroissement de la capacité d'acheminement par camion. A cette fin, le Gouvernement vient de mettre 50 camions militaires à la disposition de la R.R.C* et étudie la mise à disposition de camions supplémentaires. Il a également décidé, s'agissant de l'utilisation du parc existant (6.250 véhicules) en Ethiopie, d'accorder la priorité au transport des secours (1). Ces dispositions risquent toutefois, de ne pas avoir l'effet escompté si les moyens financiers ne sont pas accordés pour assurer le fonctionnement de la flotte de véhicules. C'est là que la Communauté pourrait jouer un rôle essentiel en payant, comme elle l'a fait dans le passé, des frais de transport.
- en second lieu, il conviendrait d'essayer d'accroître la capacité de réception du pays. Une solution à ce problème pourrait être (en tout cas pour les 35.000 tonnes de céréales communautaires dont la livraison est prévue pour le premier trimestre 1985) le recours au port de Djibouti et au chemin de fer le reliant à Addis Abeba. Les services de la Commission étudient cette possibilité en liaison avec l'antenne de Djibouti.
- dans le cas où, pour quelque raison que ce soit, l'approvisionnement se révélerait insuffisant au cours des trois prochains mois la Commission pourrait envisager de procéder à l'achat de céréales locales. Certes, la récolte sera très inférieure à celle de l'année dernière, mais certaines quantités devraient pouvoir être mobilisées en cas de nécessité.

(1) Ces mesures s'ajoutent à d'autres telles que l'achat de grains localement (60.000 tonnes) et sur le marché mondial (100.000 tonnes).

* Relief and rehabilitation Commission, Organe du Gouvernement éthiopien chargé de l'organisation des secours aux victimes de la famine.

- pour remédier aux difficultés d'acheminement liées au problème de la sécurité dans certaines régions, il ne semble pas y avoir d'autre solution que l'organisation de transports par avion. C'est ce que la Commission fait déjà en finançant actuellement un pont aérien (890.000 écus) pour le transport de 2.000 tonnes de céréales entre Asmara et Mekele. C'est très probablement ce qu'il faudra continuer à faire ; c'est peut-être ce qu'il faudra faire même dans les régions où les problèmes de sécurité n'existent pas, si les efforts en vue d'accroître la capacité d'accueil des produits en Ethiopie et la capacité d'acheminement par route ne sont pas rapidement couronnés de succès.

4. Evaluation des besoins

Pour les trois prochains mois, on peut évaluer à 60 millions d'écus environ les besoins immédiats qui restent à couvrir pour les seuls pays du Sahel et de l'Ethiopie (1).

Ethiopie	:	28 millions d'écus
Mali	:	5 " "
Niger	:	5 " "
Burkina	:	4 " "
Sénégal	:	3 " "
Mauritanie	:	5 " "
Tchad	:	6 " "

Pour la période ultérieure ce sont plusieurs centaines de milliers de tonnes d'aide alimentaire qui seront nécessaires.

5. Mise en place d'un nouveau plan d'urgence communautaire

a) Action immédiate

Le crédit de 32 millions d'écus qui est sur le point d'être viré sur l'article 950 permettra de couvrir partiellement les besoins des trois prochains mois (2). Il devra, comme à l'accoutumée, être géré avec la plus grande souplesse pour s'adapter à l'évolution des besoins qui caractérise toute situation d'urgence du fait, entre autres, des apports effectués par les autres donateurs (Etats Unis, etc...).

Sous ces réserves, les actions envisagées par la Commission se présentent, à titre indicatif, comme suit :

(1) Transport interne de secours (par route, chemin de fer, avion) transports maritime et aérien
fourniture de médicaments, couvertures, achat de vivres locaux et si nécessaire de vivres
importés, etc...

(2) L'Italie envisage une action de 13 millions d'écus en faveur de l'Ethiopie.

PAYS	MONTANTS ENVISAGES Mio ECUS	ACTIONS ENVISAGES
Ethiopie	15 (1)	Transport interne (route, chemin de fer) 45.000 T céréales Pont aérien interne 4.000 T céréales Achat 25.000 T céréales locales Autres secours (médicaments, couvertures,
Mali	2	Achat et transport 5.000 T céréales local Programmes médico-nutritionnels
Niger	3	Achat et transport 5.000 T céréales local Transport semences et autres secours Achat viande séchée Programmes médico-nutritionnels, etc.
Burkina Faso	1	Achat et transport 3.000 T céréales Autres secours
Sénégal	1	Transport interne 10.000 T céréales
Mauritanie	2	Achat 3.000 T céréales Transport interne Autres secours
Tchad	3	Achat et transport 2.000 T semences Achat et transport 2.000 T céréales Programmes médico-nutritionnels
Autres pays (Soudan, Kenya, Mozambique...)	5	Achat et transport interne Programmes médico-nutritionnels
	32	Achat et/ou transport interne (par camion chemin de fer) 100.000 T céréales Transport aérien interne 4.000 T céréales Programmes médico-nutritionnels, etc.

(1) Plus 3 Mio écus en cours de décision au titre de l'article 137
de la Convention de Lomé

Le programme sera mis en oeuvre avec l'appui des délégations de la Commission et avec le concours des gouvernements et des organisations localement opérationnelles (CICR, Ligue des Sociétés de Croix Rouge, ONGs, organismes de la famille des Nations Unies).

Les opérations seront menées en étroite coordination avec les organisations internationales compétentes (UNHCR, PAM notamment) et Les Etats membres (dans le cadre des procédures de coordination existantes et lors de la réunion prochaine (13 novembre) avec les Etats Membres et les délégués de la Commission).

b) action à court terme

Après qu'auront été utilisées les disponibilités locales (production et aides en cours) il sera nécessaire de fournir de nouvelles aides alimentaires pour assurer la survie des populations jusqu'à l'arrivée des aides normales dans le cadre du budget 1985.

A cette fin, la Commission estime nécessaire la fourniture d'une quantité d'environ 100.000 T de céréales correspondant à un montant de 25 millions d'écus.

Sur ces quantités, 30.000 T sont disponibles immédiatement (réserve 1984). Une quantité de 50.000 T pourrait, en outre, être dégagée en donnant la priorité à cette aide exceptionnelle sur des actions déjà programmées dans le cadre de l'exécution normale de l'aide alimentaire en 1984. 198

Etant donné la situation déjà tendue en matière de disponibilités budgétaires au sein du chapitre 92, cette utilisation de crédits de ce chapitre pour cette aide exceptionnelle présuppose qu'aucun prélèvement ne soit effectué sur le chapitre 92, et qu'en particulier les 16 Mio d'écus nécessaires pour le programme d'éducation de l'UNHCR soient prélevés sur un autre chapitre, comme proposé par la Commission dans le virement qui est à l'examen au Comité budgétaire.

La Commission examine la possibilité de dégager d'autres crédits d'ici la fin de l'exercice budgétaire 1984. Si cela s'avérait impossible, le solde, soit 20.000 T, ne pourrait être pris en charge que sur de nouveaux crédits disponibles au titre du budget 1985.

**Bilan et actions des aides humanitaires 1984 en faveur des
populations éthiopiennes victimes de la famine**

A) Aides d'urgence article 137 de la Convention de Lomé

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Montants en écus et agent d'exécution</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>écus</u>
17.4.84	2.500.000 UNDRO et Ligue des Sociétés de Croix Rouge	Transport interne de secours Achat et transport 2.900 T de semences Achat et transport de couvertures	800.000 1.540.000 160.000
17.9.84	3.000.000 Délégation et CICR	Pont aérien entre Asmara et Mekélé (actuellement en cours de fonctionnement) pour le transport de 2.000 T de céréales Transport maritime de 9.150 T de céréales arrivée prévue début novembre Transport maritime de céréales et biscuits protéines Achat et transport intérieur de vivres locaux (1.000 T de haricots et 1.000 T de farine enrichie) Equipements centres d'alimentation Programme médico- nutritionnels	890.000 350.000 275.000 1.030.000 30.000 425.000
TOTAL	5.500.000		

B) Aides alimentaires (1983-1984) : valeur 38,3 Mio écus

1) Programme 1983 :

20.000 T céréales (livrées XII/83)

20.000 T céréales (livrées VI-VII/84)

2.000 T lait (livrées I-II/84)

500 T butteroil (livrées II-III/84)

Programme 1984 :

18.000 T céréales (livrées IX/84)

1.400 T lait (en cours de mobilisation)

500 T butteroil (en cours de mobilisation)

25.000 T céréales

500 T huile végétale

2) Aides indirectes (PAM, CICR, ONG)

Programme 1983

22.251 T céréales (dont 14.000 T PAM livrées en août 1984)

930 T lait

850 T butteroil

Programme 1984

11.629 T céréales

820 T lait

440 T butteroil/huile

100 T sucre

RESTRICTED

Reference

1214

PB-ENNA 57/534/01

W/E

FROM: J A L Faint

DATE: 31 October 1984

cc. Mr Buist
Mr Ireton
Mr Wenban-Smith, FCO

Dr Osborne

ETHIOPIA: USE OF AID FUND FOR REMITTANCES

Mr Wenban-Smith's minute to you of 30 October raises the question of use of local expenditure funded by ODA in connection with the relief operation being used for remittances of blocked local balances held by UK firms.

2. Several propositions of this type have been considered recently, and our long established policy not to use aid funds in this way has been reaffirmed by senior management (Sir W Rylie's minute of 16 March, (51) on FIN 542/610/01).

3. As a result of a subsequent case, it was decided that we might be prepared to modify this policy, but only if we received a written request through the proper channels from the government concerned (item (69) on file).

4. The main reasons for the policy, set out in more detail in the submission, at (50) are:-

- (a) such arrangements do not in fact benefit developing countries. This is because, when local currency is purchased in the ordinary way for aid activities, the foreign exchange goes to the recipient country's reserves;
- (b) such arrangements will involve circumventing local governments' foreign exchange regulations, and may in some instances be illegal;
- (c) the use of capital aid funds in this way would be contrary to the terms of our aid agreements;
- (d) discrimination amongst the potential claims for such treatment could be invidious.

5. In the circumstances, I think that Mitchell Cotts should be told that use of aid funds in this way is not possible.

J A L Faint

J A L Faint

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

Dr Osborne,
EWAD/ODA

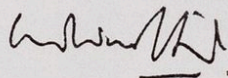
cc: Mr Johnson
Mr Buist
✓ Mr Faint, Finance Dept, ODA

ETHIOPIAN RELIEF: POSSIBLE USE OF MITCHELL COTTS' (MC)
LOCAL BIR FUNDS

1. Mr Charles O'Toole of MC telephoned today. He said that his company has around £2 million worth of Ethiopian bir which they were not able to remit in sterling. He had instructed his local representative to draw on these funds in as helpful a way as possible should the Embassy seek his help.

2. But he also had a larger question. Was there any way in which we might use these funds for local expenditure required in the relief operation, repaying MC in the UK in sterling? I said that this seemed imaginative and that I would put the suggestion to you. I thought however that whatever was done would have to be done overtly and not in an underhand way at which the Ethiopian government would protest. He agreed. I also said that on present form we did not expect our relief efforts to require much in the way of local expenditure: we would be looking to the Ethiopians to provide local services free of cost. Nevertheless, I would ask you to bear his suggestion in mind.

3. Is this altogether ruled out of court, or is there some way we could help MC in the course of providing assistance?



W N Wenban-Smith
East African Department
K322A 233 4549

29 October 1984

PRINCIPAL
FINANCE OFFICER

19 JUN 1984

1229

FIN 543/610/01

69

FROM: J A L FAINT

DATE: 18 June 1984

cc. Mr Buist
Mr R White, EWAD
Mr B Ireton, APD
Mr E Hawthorn, ES
Mr R Daly, WAD
Mr Illman, LCD

Copies for comments to:

Mr Joy, TRED
Mr Reeves, FCO Finance

*I support Mr Faint's line
and recommendations.
L.A. 25/6.*

Mr R M Ainscow

Sir William Ryle

D agree. L.A.R. 26/6

THE AID PROGRAMME AND REMITTANCE PROBLEMS: THE GAMBIA

Problem

How should we respond

- (1) to the request from the Gambian Ministry of External Affairs for assistance through the Aid Programme in remitting funds to London for payment of their subscription to the Commonwealth Secretariat?
- (2) to Cable and Wireless' request to use aid funds to remit blocked balances of local funds to the UK?

Recommendation

2. I recommend that, provided a request is received through the proper channels, we should agree to use counterpart funds generated by TC expenditure to assist the Gambian Government in the discharge of its Commonwealth obligations. If we are further pressed to use counterpart funds generated by capital aid for local costs, we should have further discussions with the Finance Ministry on the principle, and on the question whether an amendment should be made to our aid agreements.
3. We should, however, continue to resist requests from Cable and Wireless, or other British firms which have blocked local currency accounts, to use aid funds to assist with remittances, unless we are specifically requested to do so by the Gambian Government.

Background

4. The use of aid for remittances by British firms was previously considered in Mr Ainscow's minute of 9 March 1984 and Sir W Ryrie's reply of 16 March (copies of which are attached for reference). The new factor in the present case is the receipt of a specific request from the local government.
5. An oral request was made in February by the Minister of External Affairs to the British High Commission, Banjul, that HMG should agree to pay contributions due from the Gambians to the Commonwealth Secretariat, in exchange for dolasis which the BHC would use for local expenditure. Contributions owing to the Secretariat cover several years and total £79,000; and this is a source of embarrassment to the Gambian authorities.
6. The FCO would like to make a helpful response to this request. However, they have already undertaken to assist Cable and Wireless with remittances, and total local expenditure on the post account is only £6,300 per month (approx). Without supplement from TC sources, local expenditure from which amounts to a further £6,700 per month, it would take over a year to discharge the Commonwealth obligations. We could be approached to make similar arrangements for other international commitments of the Gambians.
7. Cable and Wireless have been operating the telecommunications system in the Gambia but have been told by the Gambian Government that their franchise is to be withdrawn. They are at present negotiating terms under which C and W assets will be acquired by the Gambians, who will probably wish to pay all or part of the purchase price in local currency. C and W have therefore asked for assistance through the capital aid programme, suggesting that they would make payments due to local contractors in local currency, and ODA would make direct payments of equivalent amounts to C and W in sterling in London. We have refused to use capital aid funds in this way, for the reasons outlined in the attached minutes, but the post account has been used to make some remittances on C and W's behalf, without distinguishing between the post account general expenses and local expenditure arising from our TC programme. This use of TC counterpart funds has, however, now been suspended pending consideration of the new Gambian Government request.

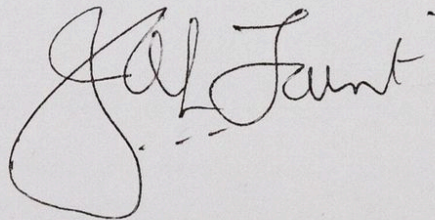
Argument

8. Some representatives of the Gambian Government, at least, do not seem to understand that they obtain no additional foreign exchange by manoeuvres of the type proposed. If we did not accede to their request, foreign exchange used to finance the local costs of aid activities would go to the Central Bank and be added to the Gambian reserves. It would be open to the Gambians to use it to pay their Commonwealth obligations, or for any other purpose. There is thus a suspicion that we are in fact being asked to assist one part of the Gambian system (the MFA) against another (Treasury/Central Bank). This concern could however be removed if we received a written approach through the normal channels for aid requests.

9. Assuming that condition were met, it would seem difficult to resist meeting the Gambian request. We regard it as essentially a matter for the Gambians to allocate the foreign exchange counterpart generated by the use of aid funds, and they would in effect be telling us that it was administratively convenient for them to employ it in this way. In view of the political desirability of a positive response, I recommend that we should agree to use TC counterpart funds, along with the post account, to discharge the Gambian obligations to the Commonwealth Secretariat. Using both Diplomatic Wing and TC resources, this would take about six months.

10. We should, however, continue to hold the line against requests by British firms for remittances to clear blocked accounts through the aid programme, unless we were also explicitly requested to take this action by the Gambians.

11. Use of TC funds as recommended would require no alteration to our agreements. Use of capital aid funds would not be in accordance with payment arrangements set out in our grant agreements, which would require to be amended, and should the Gambians approach us further requesting this wider use of aid funds for remittances, it is proposed that the principles of this line of action should be further discussed with them. Only if they then maintained their request, and if we were satisfied that the use proposed was not contrary to the basic developmental aims of our aid, would we consider amendment to the relevant grant agreements.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J A L Faint', with a large, stylized loop at the bottom left.

J A L Faint

Mr Edwards

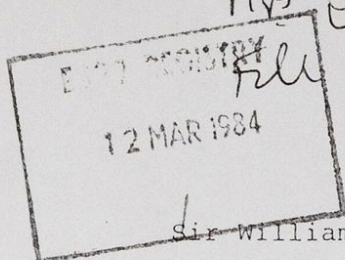
Nys Jensen

I think the previous comes

is on the local
Cost Aid Pub. Pl
1. km an unit.funders.
12/3From: R M Ainscow
Date: 9 March 1984cc Mr Browning
Mr Vereker
Mr Buist
Mr Faint
Mr Ireton
Mr Sandersley
Mrs Howarth, TRED

(51) up

(56) up



Sir William Ryrie

THE AID PROGRAMME AND PRIVATE SECTOR REMITTANCE PROBLEMS

Problem

How to deal with requests to apply aid funds in order to alleviate difficulties in remitting funds from developing countries with exchange control restrictions. It is relevant to the lunch which I understand you and Mr Browning are having at BP next week.

2. This paper is confined to problems caused by exchange control restrictions. It is not the intention to discuss here the issue of expropriation.

Background

3. ODA has been approached by a variety of firms and institutions, ranging from BP and British Caledonian to a University Superannuation Scheme. In essence, they have all put forward variations on a common theme - that aid funds should be utilised in some way to compensate British companies for the restrictions placed by overseas authorities on the repatriation of funds. The proposed means by which this might be achieved are varied. They can be broadly categorised as follows:

- (a) delaying aid payments until British companies are allowed to repatriate funds without hindrance; or "adjusting" aid commitments and compensating British investors with the proceeds;
- (b) allowing UK companies abroad to purchase spare parts with ODA funds;
- (c) using local cost aid to enable funds to be repatriated.

4. It is important to recognise the widespread nature of the problem given that there is no doubt that in some cases British firms are having to suspend operations and that, in others, the incentive to continue is rapidly dwindling. We are, ourselves, promoting the concept of greater private investment in the developing world as a means of stimulating economic growth and development. It is in HMG's interests to ensure that as far as possible the commercial climate is right for continued and increasing private investment in developing countries. We recognise that for this to succeed the most important factor is a favourable investment climate in the host country itself, inter alia including the freedom to remit profit. At the same time businessmen have grown accustomed to government assistance for many kinds of export and overseas investment activities. It is understandable therefore that they should expect support when remittance difficulties occur.

5. There is, already, some Government support. For new investments ECGD offers an Investment Insurance Scheme which provides cover

against political risks. Introduced in 1972 this scheme offers insurance against expropriation, war and restrictions on remittances. It does not therefore cover against restrictions on remittances in respect of investments made prior to 1972 and it in practice covers only a small proportion of new investment. Although less easy to identify, the efforts of DTI officials and Diplomatic staff overseas continue to help British companies when they encounter difficulties, including blocking of funds. Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements now exist with 22 countries, though their focus is on prompt and effective compensation in the event of expropriation.

Proposals (a) and (b)

6. Taking the proposals in para 3 above, in turn, proposal (a) is not a starter. We do indeed take account of discriminatory action against British commercial interests in settling aid levels (eg unresolved compensation issues have inhibited the development of a regular capital aid programme to Burma), in distribution of aid (eg we have avoided aiding the tea sector in Sri Lanka because of unresolved problems over former private estates) and in our attitude to multilateral aid proposals (eg reservations on IBRD loans to Ethiopia pending settlement of a dispute over compensation). Such action is not appropriate to non-discriminatory restrictions on repatriation of funds arising from exchange control difficulties. (A recipient government's general economic policies including inter alia its attitude towards private investment might, of course, be one of many factors taken into account in determining general aid eligibility or the total volume of aid to a particular country).

7. Proposal (b) is practiced already in a variety of circumstances where programme or sector aid is made available to locally established private sector firms. Such aid will normally be for UK goods required by any eligible private sector purchaser (eg programme aid for Jamaica, Zimbabwe or the tea project in Bangladesh), whether or not a UK subsidiary. However in Zaire, programme aid has been emphatically designed for the provision of essential inputs to local subsidiaries of UK firms. There is no policy objection to the use of this technique in other cases, so long as it is done with the agreement of the host government, is consistent with development priorities and avoids imputations that UK aid is being used mainly for the benefit of UK commercial interests.

8. Proposal (c) raises rather more difficult issues and is the subject of the remainder of this paper.

Proposal (c): The Use of Local Cost Aid

9. Proposal (c) means that UK companies abroad would provide local currency to the recipient country authorities in exchange for payment in sterling in London from ODA either direct to the head office of the UK Company or to them via a recipient country account in London. The local currency could then be used to meet the local costs of UK-aided projects. (On a variant of this proposal the UK subsidiary would meet the local costs directly ie purchase locally or provide in kind the goods and services required for projects). The proposal means in effect that while the recipient country government would receive local currency resources from the

UK firm, it would lose the important benefit of the foreign exchange dimension of the aid.

10. There are major objections practical and otherwise to this proposal:

(i) it is probable that even in major aid recipients (Indian RTA being excluded as a special case), the flow of our local cost aid is far smaller than the build-up in blocked accounts; the rationing of British aid among the British companies, interests and individuals concerned would be a very difficult and invidious business;

(ii) the exchange rate to be used in such an arrangement would be very controversial;

(iii) the use of aid in this way would weaken the attractions of the ECGD investment insurance scheme in the countries concerned;

(iv) the agreement of the recipient country authorities would be essential; they would object both because it would deprive them of the foreign exchange (or import capacity) benefit which all aid represents and because it would run counter to the fundamental purpose of their exchange control regulations.

11. The economic thinking behind the proposal seems to be based on the misconception that because UK pounds are converted into local currency in order to finance the local costs of projects the pounds are somehow superfluous or in excess of the recipient's foreign exchange needs. This may be partly due to the frequent description of local cost aid as providing "free" foreign exchange or as being required to meet a local cost "shortage".

12. But the local expenditures will themselves have a direct or indirect import content, eg cement for local construction or additional food imports arising from local wage payments. Even if the normal local currency value of the pounds (which in any case varies with the exchange rate) has a marginal import content on the first two or three rounds of spending of less than the full sterling value, the pounds in time will be fully spent on imports as a result of other local expenditure.

Conclusion

13. We should continue to oppose proposals for the use of local cost aid to facilitate remittances. In dealing with such queries, we should explain the difficulties (para 10 above), emphasise the desirability of policy reforms in ldc's which would enable a more liberal system to be adopted locally, and (for companies) the desirability of making use of the ECGD scheme for new investments.

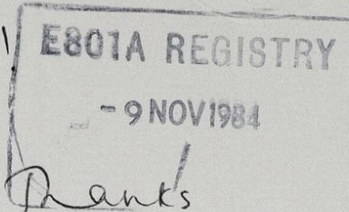
14. APD will ascertain whether any other major donors use local cost aid in the way proposed, and seek views of DTI, ECGD and TRED on the extent of the problem and on the effectiveness of other forms of Government support.

R M Ainscow.

R M Ainscow
9 March 1984

Return to Mr. Osborne
1213 (72)
✓
see.

E801

Mr Browning
To see +
Jro
2/4FROM: D G OSBORNE
DATE: 31 OCTOBER 1984cc Mr Browning
Mr Ainscow
Mr Arbuthnott
Mr Buist O/R
Mr Ireton
Mr Faint
Mr Wenban-Smith EAD/FCOPB
Jro
8/11

Sir Crispin Tickell

ETHIOPIA: MEDIUM AND LONG TERM - A PERSONAL VIEW

You have a meeting this morning. I thought I should give you my ideas, while recognising that I might be too close to the scene of action to take a balanced view. I hope those to whom this minute is copied will let Mr Lingham know immediately if they dissent from my ideas.

Medium Term

2. We face severe drought and famine in several African countries between now and the end of 1985, as well as famine in Bangladesh. After the initiative we have taken on Ethiopia we need to "see this through", for otherwise our present efforts would be wasted and any political advantage lost whether with the Ethiopian Government, rebels or pressure groups at home. We shall also be under great pressure to extend help to other countries. Unless we do this we could damage political relations (eg with Kenya). There are rumours already of the Sudanese threatening to refuse "flying rights for relief planes to Ethiopia because they feel they are being neglected".

high!

3. One estimate of Ethiopia's needs is 900,000 tonnes of food by December 1985. A British share of 100,000 tonnes would seem reasonable. But it would need to be balanced by at least as much for the rest of Africa and a separate effort for Bangladesh. 100,000 tonnes for Ethiopia has been costed at £26m delivered to needy areas by sea and land or £30m if 20% was airlifted within the country or from Djibouti (enabling a second seaport to be used). 200,000 tonnes for Africa might cost between £50m and £60m of which perhaps half could usefully be spent in the current financial year. I recommend considering a bid, in principle, for this from the central contingency reserve.

Let us
want to
see what
others do.

4. Before funds were transferred I recommend that a study should be made to assess, as far as possible, the extent of the need, the inputs proposed by other /donors

donors and the feasibility of getting food to the needy. We could urge the European Community (perhaps starting at Coreper tomorrow) to undertake this study, with a clear understanding that if the possibility of bringing help to the needy is identified something would be done (or to quote the Prime Minister "we will do all we can"). Approval in principle of a bid for contingency reserve funds would enable us to make this statement in good faith.

5. Clearly there would be presentational advantages in all this: it was right to use the aid programme's contingency reserve for immediate action but good to commit the Government to doing something more if it is shown to be necessary. It would also meet the present demands of the voluntary agencies if it was thought important to do this.

6. It is also quite likely that savings will be identified in ODA in December or January which could be used for grain for Africa (and spent quickly). It may be possible in this way to supplement spending financed from the central contingency reserve in this financial year to build up grain stocks in and for Africa and lessen the demands on us in the next financial year. I envisage pressure on the European Community to release the extra food needed and the expense to HMG to be caused by attribution to the aid programme. Hence an alternative to use of the contingency reserve would be the waiving of attribution for additional food aid to Africa in the next 12 months.

Long Term (meaning after January 1986)

7. We should consider a major effort at agricultural research and extension in Africa in an effort to duplicate the Green Revolution that has benefitted other parts of the world. This should be concentrated on those countries where agricultural policy makes success a possibility. According to the EC representative in Addis Ababa this does not include Ethiopia, with its collectivised farms, though I understand that Commissioner Pisani thinks highly of Ethiopian agriculture. As soon as time allows I propose to ask advisers here to look into the papers on this to advise how best this should be handled within the community. If the community and other Western donors were agreed it may be possible, should we so wish, to bring considerable pressure on the Ethiopian Government under the relocation of people and their agricultural systems.



D G Osborne
Eastern and Western Africa Department
31 October 1984

2856

Mr Buist
There were my
rather hasty views

FROM: D G OSBORNE

DATE: 31 OCTOBER 1984

Mr Hurd
Per PB then copy
MEWA 57/534/01
7/11

cc Mr Browning
 Mr Ainscow
 Mr Arbuthnott
 Mr Buist O/R
 Mr Ireton
 Mr Faint
 Mr Wenban-Smith EAD/FCO

Dr Osborne
Thanks. I think
this should all be
discussed in a bit more
depth before decisions are reached

Sir Crispin Tickell

ETHIOPIA: MEDIUM AND LONG TERM - A PERSONAL VIEW

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4. Before funds were transferred I recommend that a study should be made to assess, as far as possible, the extent of the need, the inputs proposed by other

/donors

donors and the feasibility of getting food to the needy. We could urge the European Community (perhaps starting at Coreper tomorrow) to undertake this study, with a clear understanding that if the possibility of bringing help to the needy is identified something would be done (or to quote the Prime Minister "we will do all we can"). Approval in principle of a bid for contingency reserve funds would enable us to make this statement in good faith.

5. Clearly there would be presentational advantages in all this: it was right to use the aid programme's contingency reserve for immediate action but good to commit the Government to doing something more if it is shown to be necessary. It would also meet the present demands of the voluntary agencies if it was thought important to do this.

6. It is also quite likely that savings will be identified in ODA in December or January which could be used for grain for Africa (and spent quickly). It may be possible in this way to supplement spending financed from the central contingency reserve in this financial year to build up grain stocks in and for Africa and lessen the demands on us in the next financial year. I envisage pressure on the European Community to release the extra food needed and the expense to HMG to be caused by attribution to the aid programme. Hence an alternative to use of the contingency reserve would be the waiving of attribution for additional food aid to Africa in the next 12 months.

Long Term (meaning after January 1986)

7. We should consider a major effort at agricultural research and extension in Africa in an effort to duplicate the Green Revolution that has benefitted other parts of the world. This should be concentrated on those countries where agricultural policy makes success a possibility. According to the EC representative in Addis Ababa this does not include Ethiopia, with its collectivised farms, though I understand that Commissioner Pisani thinks highly of Ethiopian agriculture. As soon as time allows I propose to ask advisers here to look into the papers on this to advise how best this should be handled within the community. If the community and other Western donors were agreed it may be possible, should we so wish, to bring considerable pressure on the Ethiopian Government under the relocation of people and their agricultural systems.



D G Osborne
Eastern and Western Africa Department

RESTRICTED

File 1212.
WJE

EWA 57/534/01

FROM: D G OSBORNE

DATE: 31 OCTOBER 1984

cc Ethiopia Drought Group

1. Mr Browning
2. Sir Crispin Tickell
3. PS/Minister

CABINET ON THURSDAY 1 NOVEMBER: ETHIOPIA

/ I submit, as requested, a short note of points to make for the Secretary of State.

2. I recommend that a copy of Mr McCulloch's note of 30 October be attached as background.

D G Osborne
Eastern and Western Africa Department
31 October 1984

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POINTS TO MAKE

1. Main requirement now is to ensure that relief aid goes to those in need. This will require a major international coordination effort over many months. Britain cannot provide this but can help, in particular at technical level on the ground in Ethiopia.
2. US said to have committed 80,000 tonnes food aid but believed to be pressing Ethiopian Government for assurance about use and monitoring of this by US voluntary organisations. Russians reported to have made substantial offer of vehicles, aircraft, rice.
3. [Further assistance may be needed for Ethiopia (cannot feed people now to let them starve next year), contributions to other needy countries (eg Sudan, Kenya, who may otherwise react against us) and maintaining pressure on other donors. However] any further British assistance to Ethiopia and others beyond what has been promised is impossible without serious damage to the rest of the aid programme.
4. Ethiopian Government has been and remains objectionable. We had an aid programme designed to help avoid disaster such as has occurred but had to abandon this after the Derg came to power.
5. No reason to suppose relevant policies of Government of Ethiopia will improve. That, and other claims on aid programme, lead us to conclusion that it would not be right at present to set up an aid programme to Ethiopia other than relief assistance, food aid and technical cooperation.
6. Without aid for agriculture famines may occur more often. We propose urging multilateral donors, including the Community, to take the lead in providing aid on conditions likely to lessen the risk of famine.

5
E77/1212

BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO FAMINE IN ETHIOPIA

The British Government has responded swiftly to the urgent need for further humanitarian assistance to help the victims of famine in Ethiopia.

On 24 October Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, told the House of Commons that the Government pledged an extra £5 million for drought-affected areas in Africa, including Ethiopia, and more than 6,000 tonnes of food aid for people facing starvation in Ethiopia.

On 30 October Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development, announced in the House of Commons that the Ethiopian Government had accepted the British Government's offer of a Royal Air Force detachment of two Hercules aircraft for three months to carry out relief operations within the Ethiopian famine areas. Two RAF officers arrived in Addis Ababa on 30 October to settle the practical arrangements for these internal relief operations. Britain is also supporting the use of a civilian Hercules in Ethiopia for some weeks by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Among the uses to which the British offer of £5 million will be put are the supply of dump trucks to help with unloading at the port of Assab, landrovers and spare parts for them to help with internal distribution, water drilling rigs, medical requirements, and the shipment of relief supplies to Ethiopia.

This help is over and above the 40,000 tonnes of bilateral food aid Britain has given Ethiopia during the past two years, including 3,000 tonnes of cereals approved in October and which reached Ethiopia on 28 October.

Britain has taken the initiative in stimulating additional help from the European Community. During 1984 the European Community has already made direct allocations of 53,000 tonnes of cereals and 3,000 tonnes of other products for Ethiopia. On 25 October the Prime Minister sent a message to Dr Fitzgerald as President of the European Council of Ministers, to urge new specific assistance for Ethiopia from the European Community. The Community is expected to approve very soon a special programme of food and transport assistance worth £20 million, of which the British share would be about £4.5 million.

Emi/1212

We expect to provide bilaterally:

	£M
1. Internal transport for British food aid	0.75
2. Spare parts for Relief and Rehabilitation Commission	0.1
3. Ten new landrovers for RRC	0.09
4. Ten dumber trucks and spares, Assab Port	0.35
5. Hercules for use by Red Cross, four weeks second aircraft	0.5
6. Drilling rigs for SCF	0.36
7. Landrovers for Red Cross, SCF, CAFOD and Air Administration	0.04
8. 5 x 30 tonne trucks (CAFOD)	0.25
9. Seeds Oxfam	0.2
10. Equipment to be transported for Disasters Emergency Committee	0.15
11. Consultants, advisers, mechanical engineers, etc	0.2
12. Shipment 2,000 tonnes food aid to rebel areas (no publicity)	0.14
<u>SUB-TOTAL</u>	<u>3.13</u>
A. 6,000 tonnes British bilateral food aid including shipping	1.0
B. British share new European Community food aid	4.5
C. As a separate exercise, MOD are providing the two RAF Hercules	

J.R. Shme.

31.10.84.

RESTRICTED

1211 146

FROM : M C McCULLOCH
PS/Mr Raison

DATE : 31 OCTOBER 1984

cc Sir Crispin Tickell
Mr Browning
Mr Arbuthnott
Mr Freeman
Mr Faint

Dr Osborne

CABINET ON THURSDAY 1 NOVEMBER: ETHIOPIA

The Secretary of State will wish to report to Cabinet on the situation in Ethiopia and progress with our relief effort, perhaps drawing attention to the financial implications for the aid programme.

2. I would be grateful for a short note of points to make as soon as possible this afternoon to send on to the Secretary of State's office for his evening box.

M C McCulloch

M C McCulloch
31 October 1984

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ODA Press release. 30/10/84.

Britain's Minister for Overseas Development, Mr Timothy Raison today rejected criticisms that the Government was giving too little aid to help deal with the famine in Ethiopia.

He said: "The British Government has responded swiftly to the urgent need for humanitarian assistance to help the victims of the famine in Ethiopia.

"I have seen reports today criticising the Government for funding the new aid package to Ethiopia out of the aid programme's contingency fund.

"The contingency fund is precisely intended for emergencies such as the famine in Ethiopia. The military aircraft which are flying out shortly to help transport essential equipment within Ethiopia will be additional to the aid budget."

Ethiopia Drought Crisis

To me for

information.

Rev.

-6 NOV 1984

cc: PJ/Mr. Raison

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31/10/84

ATTN: MALCOLM RIFKIND.
FOREIGN OFFICE.

NOTE: COPIED TO Ethiopia Drought
Group on 5/11/84.
E 801A.

P.A.

John Leslie
5/11/84

1. IT WAS REPORTED ON BBC WORLD SERVICE YESTERDAY OCTOBER 30TH (FROM CAROL BERGER, BBC STRINGER IN KOREM REPORTING FROM ADDIS ABABA) THAT DRAUGHT VICTIMS WHO TREKKED TO GOVERNMENT HELD FEEDING CENTRE AT KOREM FROM TPLF - HELD AREAS HAVE BEEN REFUSED FOOD RATIONS AND ANY OTHER SERVICES UNTIL THEY BRING IDENTITY CARDS FROM GOVERNMENT SPONSORED FARMERS ASSOCIATION. THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD TO RETURN TO THEIR VILLAGES TO FETCH SUCH PAPERS WHICH, YOU MAY UNDERSTAND, IS IMPOSSIBLE AS NO GOVERNMENT SPONSORED FARMERS ASSOCIATION OPERATES IN TPLF HELD AREAS, THESE MIGRANTS ARE NOW PASSING TO ALAMATA, 30 MILES SOUTH OF KOREM ALAMATA IS REGARDED AS THE STOPPING POINT FOR THOSE INELIGIBLE FOR FOOD REGISTRATION, AID WORKERS THERE SAY THAT MORE THAN 12,000 DESTITUTE TIGRAY'ANS HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED IN ALAMATA AND THEY HAVE FEW HOPES OF RECEIVING GOVERNMENT DISTRIBUTED FOOD. ONE RRC OFFICIAL IN KOREM WAS QUOTED IN THE REPORT AS SAYING THAT THESE PEOPLE (FROM TPLF AREAS) ARE 'NOT WELCOME'. IF THIS TREND CONTINUES, IT WILL MAKE A MOCKERY OF THE EFFORTS OF RELIEF AGENCIES AND THE MASSIVE GENEROSITY OF THE BRITISH PUBLIC.
2. REPORTS FROM SUDAN/TIGRAY BORDER INDICATE THAT DRAUGHT MIGRANTS ARE NOW BEGINNING TO CROSS INTO THE SUDAN. REST IS ENDEAVOURING TO ACCOMMODATE THEM ON THE BORDERS AND IS SEEKING WAYS AND MEANS OF PROCURING AND DELIVERING FOOD TO THEM THERE, THE SCHEDULED FOOD CONVOYS MADE THEIR USUAL CROSSING INTO TIGRAY WITH VITAL FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES YESTERDAY 30TH OCTOBER.
3. RESTS URGENT NEEDS ARE:
PRIORITY NO: 1, CASH FOR THE INTERNAL PURCHASE OF THE ESTIMATED 15,000 TONS OF GRAIN REMAINING AS SURPLUS IN THE ASGEDE REGION OF THE WEST.
PRIORITY NO: 2,
A) UTENSILS - (COOKING POTS, PLATES, CUPS, SPOONS)
B) SUPPLEMENTARY FOODSTUFFS (LEGUMES, EDIBLE OIL, POWDERED MILK).
C) MEDICINES (FULL LIST AVAILABLE ON REQUEST).
D) BLANKETS.

SOLOMON INQUAI, REST,

1208

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Mr. Haul

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1. Action rests with D.V. D.S.
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3. E801 for Reg on Sudan & Ethiopia files
1/11/84

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ATTN DOROTHY CHERRY DISASTER UNIT ODA:-

1ST) WE ARE SEEKING ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AS FOLLOWS:-

SUDAN

GENERAL:- THE FOOD SITUATION IN NORTHERN SUDAN IS CRITICAL DUE TO THE FAILURE OF THE MAJOR PART OF THEIR SORGHUM HARVEST. THIS SITUATION IS AGGRAVATED BY:-

AAA - THE INFLUX OF ETHIOPIAN REFUGEES INTO SUDAN IN THE EAST. OUR CURRENT INFORMATION IS THAT BETWEEN TWO AND THREE HUNDRED CROSS EACH DAY AND THIS NUMBER WILL PROBABLY INCREASE IN VIEW OF THE SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA.

BBB - CHADIAN REFUGEES MOVING INTO SUDAN FROM THE WEST. THIS BORDER HAS NOW BEEN CLOSED BUT WE ESTIMATE AT LEAST 50,000 REFUGEES ARE ALREADY IN SUDAN.

CCC - THE PROVINCES OF KORDOFAN AND DARFUR ARE PARTICULARLY HARD HIT BY HARVEST FAILURES AND UP TO 150,000 HAVE ABANDONED THEIR HOMES AND FARMS AND HAVE MOVED TO THE GEZIRA REGION NORTH OF KHARTOUM.

SCF RESPONSE:- IN ORDER TO COPE WITH THIS SITUATION, WE WILL UNDERTAKE THE FOLLOWING:-

AAA - THE PROVISION OF A LOGISTICS TEAM OF THREE EXPATRIATES WHO WILL WORK IN CONJUNCTION WITH A SIMILAR TEAM FROM OXFAM IN SUPPORT OF WFP AND SUDAN GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE FOOD TO KORDOFAN AND DARFUR. THE COST OF DEPLOYING THIS TEAM SUPPORT COSTS AND THE PROVISION OF TWO LANDROVERS IS IN THE REGION OF £80,000. THERE MAY BE A NEED TO AIRFREIGHT THE LANDROVERS WHICH WILL OF COURSE INCREASE THIS BUDGET.

BBB - IN ORDER TO SUPPORT UNHCR ¹⁶⁷² IN THE EAST WE INTEND TO SEND A NUTRITIONIST AND TWO NURSES TO PROVIDE EXPERT ADVICE AND HELP TO COORDINATE THE NUTRITIONAL FEEDING OF NEW REFUGEES AND SUPPORT THE EXISTING REFUGEE CAMPS. THIS WILL COST ABOUT £120,000 FOR A FULL YEAR.

CCC - IN ORDER TO SUPPORT THE FOOD LIFT FROM SUDAN TO TIGRE WE INTEND TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO REST 5 FIAT LORRIES AT A COST OF £150,000. WE WILL ALSO MAKE AVAILABLE THE SUM OF £50,000 IN ORDER TO PURCHASE GRAIN AVAILABLE IN TIGRE IN ORDER TO ASSIST TO STEM THE INFLUX OF TIGRIANS INTO SUDAN.

IMPORTANT NOTE:- SUPPORT FOR THE NORTH-WEST AND THE REFUGEES IN THE EAST AND OUR CONTINUING SUPPORT TO REST IS DEPENDENT ON SUBSTANTIAL SUPPLIES OF RELIEF FOOD BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO SUDAN. WE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION AND THE APPARENT LACK OF ANY RESERVE RELIEF FOODS AVAILABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN. WE HOPE THAT WE WILL HAVE AN UPDATE ON THE FOOD SITUATION SHORTLY.

ETHIOPIA

WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF ODA COULD SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING:-

A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE COST OF PURCHASE OF EIGHT DAF ~~TRACTOR~~ TRUCK CHASSIS AND TRAILERS WHOSE TOTAL COST IS £400,000 FOR USE BY UK AGENCIES WORKING THROUGH CRDA IN ADDIS ABABA. THIS TYPE OF VEHICLE IS ESSENTIAL IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE STANDARDISATION.

REGARDS HUGH MACKAY
OVERSEAS DIRECTOR
SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND.
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FRAME GENERAL

FM UKREP BRUSSELS 312030Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3569 OF 31 OCTOBER,

INFO SAVING BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE ROME DUBLIN
PARIS BONN LUXEMBOURG ATHENS STRASBOURG.

COREPER (AMBASSADORS) 30/31 OCTOBER.

N.B (X) DENOTES ITEMS NOT REPORTED ELSEWHERE.

For ENA 57/584/01

[Handwritten signature]

1/11/84

30 OCTOBER.

PREPARATION FOR 6 NOVEMBER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

1. AGREEMENT ON ALL ITEMS (APART FROM FAMINE IN AFRICA) TO GO TO DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL. PISANI TO MAKE STATEMENT ON LOME III AND DEVELOPMENT AT COUNCIL. INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT BY COMMISSION ON ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE.

E.C/ACP.

2. AGREEMENT WITH A FEW MODIFICATIONS TO COMMISSION PACKAGE COVERING ALL OUTSTANDING POINTS IN LOME III NEGOTIATIONS OTHER THAN HUMAN RIGHTS AND FINANCIAL VOLUME. THESE LAST TWO FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AT DROMOLAND CASTLE.

31 OCTOBER.

PREPARATION FOR 6 NOVEMBER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL : FAMINE IN AFRICA.

3. GOOD PREPARATORY DISCUSSION BASED ON LATEST COMMISSION COMMUNICATION ON AFRICAN CRISIS. PRESIDENCY AND COMMISSION TO PREPARE A RESOLUTION TO BE ADOPTED BY DEVELOPMENT MINISTERS.

E.C/ASEAN.

4. PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL DECISION TO SIGN THE PROTOCOL ON BRUNEI'S ACCESSION TO THE E.C/ASEAN AGREEMENT AGREED WITHOUT DISCUSSION. TO COUNCIL AS AN 'A' POINT. POENSGEN (GERMANY) REFERRED TO PROPOSAL FOR IMPROVING GSP FOR ASEAN AND SAID THAT GENSCHER WOULD RAISE THIS AT DROMOLAND CASTLE.

IMPLEMENTATION OF FONTAINEBLEAU CONCLUSIONS.

(A) REIMBURSEMENT OF IGA.

5. INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION. FRANCE AND DENMARK STILL WANTED REIMBURSEMENT. I URGED THEM TO THINK AGAIN. COMMISSION WILL ALSO REFLECT AND REVERT NEXT WEEK IN LIGHT OF LEGAL SERVICE'S ADVICE THAT ARTICLE 235 REGULATION NEEDED.

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/ (B)

(B) BUDGET DISCIPLINE.

6. PRESIDENCY OUTLINED PLANS FOR DEALING WITH THE PARLIAMENT AND THESE WERE BROADLY ACCEPTED. COREPER WILL DISCUSS SUBSTANCE ON AFTERNOON OF MONDAY 5 NOVEMBER.

BUTTER DISPOSAL MEASURES.

7. COMMISSION CONFIRMED PROPOSAL TO DELAY IMPLEMENTATION BUT RESISTED PRESSURE (FROM U.K) TO EXTEND THIS UNTIL AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED WITH E.C.'S TRADING PARTNERS; AND (FROM A MAJORITY OF MEMBER STATES) TO SEPARATE INTERNAL FROM EXTERNAL ELEMENTS OF THE MEASURES.

ENLARGEMENT.

(A) FISH.

8. LITTLE PROGRESS ON SARDINES: MINISTERS TO DISCUSS TRADE WITH PORTUGAL AND RESTRUCTURING AID FOR COMMUNITY PROCESSING INDUSTRY AT DROMOLAND. U.K LAUNCHED TEXT IMPROVING PRESENTATION OF COMMUNITY POSITION ON ACCESS.

(B) SPANISH AGRICULTURE.

9. NO CHANGE IN POSITIONS ON FRUIT AND VEGETABLES FOR SURVEILLANCE. FRANCE SHOWED NO SIGN OF INTEREST IN COMPROMISE.

PREPARATION FOR 12/13 NOVEMBER FOREIGN AFFAIRS COUNCIL.

10. DRAFT AGENDA CIRCULATED: ENLARGEMENT AND (POSS) IMPLEMENTATION OF FONTAINEBLEAU CONCLUSIONS. NO DISCUSSION.

OTHER BUSINESS.

(A) RESIGNATION OF VICE-PRESIDENT ORTOLI.

11. AGREEMENT TO SUBMIT AS 'A' POINT TO NEXT COUNCIL (6 NOVEMBER). DECISION NOT (NOT) TO REPLACE ORTOLI FOR REMAINDER OF LIFE OF COMMISSION.

(B) ROLLBACK: ACCELERATION OF TOKYO ROUND TARIFF CUTS.

12. WITH GREECE LIFTING RESERVE, ALL MEMBER STATES NOW AGREED ON COMMISSION PROPOSAL FOR ACCELERATED TARIFF CUTS ON PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

(C) PREPARATION FOR 6 NOVEMBER RESEARCH COUNCIL: SYNCHROTRON RADIATION (X).

13. DENMARK TABLED DRAFT OF DECLARATION (BY MUFAX) FOR COUNCIL TO ADOPT ON CO-ORDINATION OF ATTITUDES ON SITE OF SYNCHROTRON FACILITY.

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(D) PREPARATION FOR ECOFIN COUNCIL (X).

14. POENSGEN (GERMANY) CONFIRMED REQUEST MADE IN MID-SEPTEMBER FOR CEILINGS FOR AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES POLICY TO FIGURE ON ECOFIN COUNCIL AGENDA AND FOR COMMISSION TO PUT FORWARD PROPOSALS FOR CEILINGS TO BE FIXED WITHIN FUNDS AVAILABLE. COMMISSION AND PRESIDENCY NOTED.

FCO ADVANCE TO:

FCO - P.S/PUS, RENWICK, FAIRWEATHER, CROWE, WALL, RICHARDS.
CAB - WILLIAMSON, STAPLETON, LAMBERT.

FCO PASS SAVING TO: COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE ROME DUBLIN PARIS
BONN LUXEMBOURG ATHENS STRASBOURG.

BUTLER

(ADVANCED AS REQUESTED)
(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

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COPIES TO:
ADVANCE ADDRESSEES

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GRS 160

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FM BONN 311700Z OCT 84

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1021 OF 31 OCTOBER

INFO PRIORITY ODA, ADDIS ABABA, UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON,

UKDEL OECD, UKREP BRUSSELS.

MIPT (NOT TO ALL): ETHIOPIA RELIEF AID

1. WHEN I CALLED TODAY ON THE GERMAN AID MINISTER, WARNKE, HE EXPRESSED SUSPICION ABOUT THE EXTRAORDINARY SYNCHRONISATION OF TELEVISION REPORTS IN THE UK AND FRG ON 23 OCTOBER ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF THE ETHIOPIAN FAMINE. WHAT HE FOUND MORE DISTURBING WAS THAT MENGISTU HAD THE SAME DAY RECEIVED THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR FOR THE FIRST TIME AND TOLD HIM FRANKLY THAT IT WAS NOT ETHIOPIAN POLICY TO CONCENTRATE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS ON THE DROUGHT-AFFECTED AREAS. THEY WISHED RATHER TO ENCOURAGE THE RESETTLEMENT OF THE ABLE BODIED TO OTHER REGIONS WHERE THEY COULD BE ECONOMICALLY MORE PRODUCTIVE. THE YOUNG AND THE ELDERLY WOULD REMAIN BEHIND AND FOOD RESOURCES WOULD THEN BE ADEQUATE FOR FEWER MOUTHS.

2. WARNKE SAID THAT HE HAD REPORTED THIS CONVERSATION TO THE FEDERAL CABINET. IT WAS, AS HE PUT IT, IMPORTANT THAT WESTERN DONORS SHOULD AVOID GETTING CAUGHT BY BECOMING IMPLICATED IN THE EXECUTION OF MENGISTU'S POLICIES.

BULLARD

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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MR FERGUSSON
MR JOHNSON
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

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MR R BROWNING)	
MR H ARBUTHNOTT)	
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For 57/834/01
1.11.84

GRS 120
UNCLASSIFIED
FM DUBLIN 311355Z OCT 84
TO ROUTINE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 592 OF 31 OCTOBER 1984
AND TO ROUTINE ODA
INFO ROUTINE TO ADDIS ABABA LAGOS

ETHIOPIA FAMINE RELIEF

1. TODAY'S PRESS ANNOUNCES A FIRST CONSIGNMENT OF 7 TONS OF AID COLLECTED BY THE IRISH ORGANISATIONS CONCERN AND GOAL TO LEAVE DUBLIN TODAY ON A BOEING 737 PASSENGER AIRCRAFT. THE AIRCRAFT IS ON HIRE TO THE IRISH GOVERNMENT FOR A NOMINAL £1 FROM GUINNESS PEAT AVIATION (GPA) AND IS BEING DIVERTED FROM A FLIGHT TO LAGOS. THE FLIGHT IS ALSO REPORTED TO BE CARRYING SEVEN JOURNALISTS.
2. AN AER TURAS CARGO PLANE HAS BEEN CHARTERED BY GOAL TO LEAVE TOMORROW FOR ETHIOPIA WITH A FURTHER 22 TONS.
3. GPA HAVE OFFERED THE USE OF A FURTHER PASSENGER AIRCRAFT ON 12 NOVEMBER.

GOODISON

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1. ~~Mr W. W. W. W.~~
(Not with putting on the list)

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ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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PS/MR RAISON
PS/PUS
MR FERGUSSON
MR JOHNSON
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

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GRS 120
RESTRICTED
FM EAST BERLIN 311310Z OCT 84
TO ROUTINE ADDIS ABABA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 001 OF 31 OCTOBER
INFO FCO, ODA, MODUK, WASHINGTON, SOFIA

YOUR TEL NO. 312 TO FCO

GDR AID FOR ETHIOPIA

1. TODAY'S "NEUES DEUTSCHLAND" REPORTS THAT THE FIRST INSTALMENT OF GDR EMERGENCY AID, 20 TONS OF FOOD FOR CHILDREN, ARRIVED IN ADDIS ABABA ON 30 OCTOBER. THE AID WAS GIVEN, IT SAID, IN RESPONSE TO AN APPEAL FROM MENGISTU. THE GDR WAS SAID TO BE PLANNING TO SEND FOOD, MEDICAMENTS, VEHICLES, TENTS AND BLANKETS WORTH M20 MILLION (£7M) OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

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MR JENKINS

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SIR C TICKELL ODA

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 FM THE HAGUE 311700Z OCT 84
 TO PRIORITY FCO
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 347 OF 31 OCTOBER 1984
 INFO ROUTINE UKREP BRUSSELS ADDIS ABABA AND ODA

1091a YOUR TEL NO 484 TO UKREP BRUSSELS : 6 NOVEMBER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL :
 ETHIOPIA

1. ACTION TAKEN. IN ADDITION TO COMMITMENTS TOTALLING FL 5 MILLION
 MADE EARLIER IN THE YEAR, THE DUTCH HAVE OFFERED THE FOLLOWING
 EMERGENCY AID TO ETHIOPIA :

- (I) 50 TONNES OF PROTEIN BISCUITS TO BE DISTRIBUTED VIA UNICEF.
- (II) 5,000 TONNES OF GRAIN (WORTH FL 3 MILLION).
- (III) FL 250,000 TO AIRLIFT 250 TONNES OF FOOD FROM ASMARA TO
 MIKELE.
- (IV) FLS 690,00 GIVEN TO DUTCH NGO TO PROVIDE A HERCULES AIR-
 CRAFT TO AIRLIFT FOOD ON THE SAME ROUTE.
- (V) FL 11 MILLION GIVEN TO CRDA.

MANSFIELD

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 1. MWYATT A note
 2. PBm ENA 57/53101
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 3/11/84

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GRS 95

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FM LUXEMBOURG 311535Z OCT 84

TO PRIORITY F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 347 OF 31 OCTOBER

INFO PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS

INFO ROUTINE ALL OTHER EC POSTS, UKMIS NEW YORK, ADDIS ABABA.

*pleas copy to
Ethiopia Unit
H. i/j*

1091a

YOUR TELNO 484 TO UKREP : DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL : ETHIOPIA

1. I HAVE PASSED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THE TEXT OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO DR FITZGERALD.
2. THE STATE SECRETARY RESPONSIBLE FOR AID QUESTIONS, GOEBBELS, RETURNS TO LUXEMBOURG TONIGHT. IN HIS ABSENCE NO-ONE HAS BEEN ABLE TO TELL US WHAT AID LUXEMBOURG MAY GIVE TO ETHIOPIA. THE MFA SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THEY EXPECT HIM TO WISH TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION, PROBABLY A FINANCIAL ONE. THE MINISTRY WILL BE CLOSED FROM 1-4 NOVEMBER SO WE ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION UNTIL NEXT MONDAY.
3. LUXEMBOURG HAS NO LONG-TERM PROJECTS IN ETHIOPIA AT PRESENT.

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PS

PS/MR RIFKIND

PS/PUS

MR DEREK THOMAS

MR RENWICK

MR JOHNSON.

COPIES TO:

~~ODA~~

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1. ~~McIntyre~~ & note

2. Bon BWA 57/534/01.

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3/11/84.

RESTRICTED

1201

GPS 200

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL [FRAME DEVELOPMENT]

FM BRUSSELS 311225Z OCT 84

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 264 OF 31 OCTOBER

INFO PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS, ADDIS ABABA

INFO SAVING OTHER EC POSTS, UKNIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON

*Please copy to Ethiopia*  
*Chie*  
*R*  
*11/11*

1091a YOUR TELNO 484 TO UKREP :

ETHIOPIA

1. ACTION TAKEN WITH GOYENS, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF DEVELOPMENT AID.

2. GOYENS SAID THAT BELGIUM HAD NEVER HAD A BILATERAL AID PROGRAMME IN ETHIOPIA. OFFERS SOME YEARS AGO FOR PROJECTS IN THE TRANSPORT AND MINING SECTORS HAD BEEN ABANDONED IN THE FACE OF LACK OF ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENTAL INTEREST.

3. ALL BELGIAN AID TO ETHIOPIA HAS BEEN CHANNELLED THROUGH MULTILATERAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS. BELGIUM WAS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO THE FAO'S SURVIVAL FUND FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA. IN 1983 BELGIUM HAD ALSO DONATED 2,000 TONNES OF WHEAT VIA UNICEF. THE BELGIAN RED CROSS WAS NOW COORDINATING ACTIVITIES BY ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS CARITAS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR FAMINE RELIEF IN ETHIOPIA. THE BELGIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING ON 31 OCTOBER WAS DUE TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO DONATE BF6.5 MILLION (ABOUT £300,000) AND GOYENS HAD NO DOUBT IT WOULD BE AGREED.

*Noted*

4. GOYENS ALSO CONSIDERED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ON 6 NOVEMBER SHOULD TAKE DECISIONS ON AN EXPANDED RELIEF OPERATION FOR ETHIOPIA. HE APPRECIATED THE EXTENT OF THE DISASTER, BUT SAID BELGIUM WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE A BILATERAL CONTRIBUTION WITH, FOR INSTANCE, AIRCRAFT. THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO DIRECT THEIR ASSISTANCE VIA NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT BELGIUM HAD STRONGER OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS NIGER, WHERE THE POSITION WAS ALSO DESPERATE. BELGIUM HAD A SUBSTANTIAL AID PROGRAMME THERE AND WAS BETTER PLACED TO MAKE A WORTHWHILE CONTRIBUTION.

*1 Bm EWA 57/534/11*

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO ADDRESSEES

THIS TELEGRAM  
 WAS NOT  
 ADVANCED

JACKSON

FRAME DEVELOPMENT

ECD(E)

EAD.

[REPEATED SAVING AS REQUESTED]

*hmm*  
*2/11/84*

CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 200

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AMENDED DISTRIBUTION

FM BRUSSELS 311225Z OCT 84

1/4

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 264 OF 31 OCTOBER

INFO PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS, ADDIS ABABA

INFO SAVING OTHER EC POSTS, UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON

YOUR TELNO 484 TO UKREP :

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1. ~~in myatt~~ : X note

2. fBon 57/534/01

*[Signature]*

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FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO ADDRESSEES

JACKSON

THIS TELEGRAM  
WAS NOT  
ADVANCED

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

LIMITED

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PS  
PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/MR RAISON  
PS/PUS  
MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

|                 |   |     |
|-----------------|---|-----|
| MR BUIST        | ) |     |
| EWAD            | ) |     |
| ECD             | ) | ODA |
| DU              | ) |     |
| MR R BROWNING   | ) |     |
| MR H ARBUTHNOTT | ) |     |
| DS 8            | ) |     |
| DS 11           | ) |     |
| D OF OPS (AS)   | ) | MOD |
| DCS (ROW)       | ) |     |
| IA -IB/DTP      |   |     |

<sup>2</sup>  
CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 280  
UNCLASSIFIED  
FM CANBERRA 310515Z OCT 84  
TO ROUTINE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1084 OF 31 OCTOBER  
INFO ROUTINE ADDIS ABABA

1127 OUR TELNO 1079 OF 29/10/84.  
ETHIOPIAN FAMINE: AUSTRALIAN RESPONSE

PBon 57/534/01

*Am W*

2/11/84

1. AS FORESHADOWED IN OUR TUR, MR HAYDEN ANNOUNCED IN BRISBANE LAST NIGHT AN EMERGENCY AID PACKAGE WORTH 4.25 MILLION AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS FOR ETHIOPIA. THIS COMPRISES:

1) 25,000 TONS OF WHEAT, 5,000 TONS OF THIS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH NGOS, AND THE REST, INCLUDING 14,000 TONS ALREADY ALLOCATED FOR 1984, THROUGH THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME.

11) 1,225,000 AUS DOLLAR TO NGOS AND 0.5 MILLION AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS TO INTERNATIONAL DISASTER EMERGENCIES COMMITTEE.

111) 200,000 AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS TO MAINTAIN A RED CROSS TEAM FOR SIX MONTHS IN ETHIOPIA.

1V) 747 CHARTER TO TAKE RED CROSS TEAM, EMERGENCY AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES, AND 20 MORE TONS OF HIGH PROTEIN BISCUITS TO ETHIOPIA (100 TONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED. 0.5 MILLION DOLLARS FOR EMERGENCY AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES, AND 0.3 MILLION PER CHARTER).

2. AUSTRALIAN DELEGATIONS TO WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME AND UNICEF MEETINGS THIS WEEK HAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO CALL FOR COORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL AID EFFORT BY THE UN. MR HAYDEN HAS SENT A MESSAGE TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THIS EFFECT.

3. THE DATE FOR OPENING THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN ADDIS HAS BEEN BROUGHT FORWARD TO EARLY DECEMBER.

/ 4. TIMING:

I 4. TIMING: THE EXTRA WHEAT IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN ETHIOPIA  
(PORT NOT YET DECIDED) IN MID-DECEMBER. THE 747 CHARTER  
FLIGHT SHOULD BE WITHIN THE NEXT TWO /THREE WEEKS, BUT QANTAS  
HAVE DOUBTS WHETHER THE RUNWAY AT ADDIS ABABA CAN TAKE A FULLY  
LOADED 747, AND NO DATE HAS YET BEEN SET.

5. COPY OF PRESS RELEASE FOLLOWS BY BAG TO FCO.

LEAHY

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

LIMITED

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NEWS D  
WED  
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NENAD PARLY UNIT  
PS  
PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/MR RAISON  
PS/PUS  
MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )  
EWAD )  
ECD ) ODA  
DU )  
MR R BROWNING )  
MR H ARBUTHNOTT )

DS8 )  
DS11 )  
D OF OPS(AS) ) MOD  
DCS (ROW) )

IA - 1B DEPT of TRANSPORT

GR 195

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

FM MOSCOW 310930Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1246 OF 31ST OCT 84

INFO PRIORITY ADDIS ABABA

FCO TELNO 926 (NOT TO ADDIS ABABA) : ETHIOPIAN FAMINE

1. TASS OF 30 OCTOBER REPORTS AN ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT STATEMENT THAT IT HAD GIVEN HELP "INCLUDING PROVISIONS" TO ALMOST 5 MILLION PEOPLE. IT ALSO MENTIONS THAT MORE THAN THIRTY THOUSAND PEOPLE HAD BEEN MOVED OUT OF THE AFFECTED AREAS, AND THAT A SPECIAL "ANTI-DROUGHT" COMMITTEE HAS BEEN SET UP TO DEAL WITH THE WORSENING SITUATION. TWO PREVIOUS, SIMILARLY BRIEF, TASS REPORTS ( OF 27 AND 29 OCTOBER), MENTION THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE, AND THE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLES' ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE "IN THE FACE OF A CRISIS SITUATION".

2. THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF ANY OVERSEAS AID MEASURES, SOVIET OR WESTERN.

3. REUTERS HERE WERE TOLD BY THE ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR ON 29 OCTOBER THAT SOVIET AID SO FAR AMOUNTED TO ONE MILLION DOLLARS. THEY WERE INFORMED BY THE SOVIET RED CROSS THAT SOVIET AID WOULD BE MAINLY VEHICLES AND WOULD NOT INCLUDE PROVISIONS AS SUFFICIENT FOOD WAS COMING FROM THE WEST.

SUTHERLAND

LIMITED

SOV D.

EAD

ECD (E)

NEWS D

APD

DEF D

ODA

MR DEREK THOMAS

MR JENKINS

MR JOHNSON.

RESTRICTED

1199.

1. ~~M. Wyatt~~ 3/4

2. P. Bon BWA 57/534/01

W. W.

3/4

1233 Refs

VZCZCFDG CON  
FLA  
311755Z OCT 84  
FROM COMMCEN HSP  
TO MODUK AIR  
HQSTR  
HQ 1 GP  
RAF LYNEHAM

ADVANCE COPY

110/EAD

110/NEWS D.

ODA.

R.C.

CONFIDENTIAL  
SIC HUK/ISB

GR 90  
CONFIDENTIAL  
FM ADDIS ABABA 311755Z OCT 84  
TO FLASH MODUK AIR  
TELEGRAM NUMBER SIC HUK/ISB OF 31 OCTOBER  
AND TO FLASH HQSTC, HQ 1 GP, RAF LYNEHAM  
AND TO IMMEDIATE FCO

HUK/ISB OPERATION BUSHEL.

FROM MORLEY.

BRITISH AMBASSADOR ADDIS ABABA HAS ADVISED FCO COL ESHETTE OF  
RRC NO LONGER ABLE ACCEPT ARRIVAL OF HERCULES ADDIS DUE LIMITED  
RAMP SPACE. ESHETTE PLAN ENVISAGES OUR OPERATION FROM  
DJIBOUTI. FCO HAVE AGREED TO 24 HOUR DELAY OF HERCULES  
SCHEDULE TO RESOLVE PROBLEM. REQUEST YOUR ACTION ACCORDINGLY  
IN CONSULTATION WITH FCO.

BARDER  
BT

For 57/534/01  
Amw  
1/11/84

GR 1000

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 310900Z

FM ADDIS ABABA 310800Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE MODUK AIR

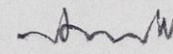
TELEGRAM NUMBER SIC IUK/ISB OF 31 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE FCO, HQSTC, HQ 1 GP, RAF LYNEHAM

IUK/ISB MOD UK FOR DDOPS AT FROM MORLEY.

PBm ENA 57/534/01

OPERATION BUSHEL.

  
 3/11

1. ETHIOPIANS HAVE NOW RECEIVED AIRLIFT OFFERS FROM EAST GERMANS, WEST GERMANS, AUSTRALIANS AND RUSSIANS (WHO SAY THEY ARE SENDING 12 TPT AIRCRAFT AND 24 HELICOPTERS FOR RELIEF WORK). COLONEL ESHETE OF RELIEF AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION (RRC) IS ATTEMPTING TO COORD ACTIVITY OF ALL PARTICIPANTS BUT HIS OFFICE IS CLEARLY OVERSTRETCHED. SUGGEST WE COMMENCE OUR EFFORT BY SIMPLEST MEANS. AIRLAND RESUPPLY FROM ASSAB TO AXUM AND MAKALE AIRSTRIPS. THIS COMPLETELY ACCEPTABLE TO ETHIOPIANS WHO DO NOT ENVISAGE AIR DROP AT PRESENT AS POPULATION IN FAMINE AREAS BELIEVED TOO WIDELY SCATTERED TO WARRANT EFFORT DISLOCATE FROM IDENTIFIED FOOD CENTRES.

2. PROPOSE BASE DETACHMENT ADDIS/BOLE INT. DJIBOUTI OPTION HAS NOT BEEN REJECTED OUT OF HAND BUT AWAITS POLITICAL INPUT LIKELY TODAY, PROBABLY DECISION UNACCEPTABLE. BOLE FACILITIES GOOD FOR OUR PURPOSES. THOUGH AIRFIELD LIKELY TO BE OVERSTRETCHED DURING PERIOD OF OAU CONFERENCE 10-11-17 NOVEMBER 1984 DURING WHICH OUR CONTINUED UTILISATION OF THE AIRPORT WILL ONLY BE FEASIBLE IF PRIORITIES ARE RENEGOTIATED - THIS IS BEING LOOKED AT BUT OAU SUMMIT LIKELY TO PREVAIL. AC HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED RAMP SPACE BY ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES MAINTENANCE HANGERS, WITH ADJACENT STORAGE FOR ENGINEERING SUPPORT. OFFICE ACCOMMODATION AT A PREMIUM. BEST ACHIEVABLE SMALL ROOM FOR OPS STAFF WITH SINGLE TELEPHONE. SUGGEST BRING TENTAGE FOR OPS/COMMUNICATORS AS THIS ARRANGEMENT SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

3. RAMP AREA CONTROLLED BY ETHIOPIANS H+24 NIL SECURITY PROBLEMS ADDIS. ACCESS TO RAMP VIA ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES MAINTENANCE AREA - PASSES REQUIRED WILL PROVIDE. REFUEL ADDIS BY BOWSER, SUFFICIENT FUEL FOR ALL. HOWEVER, ETHIOPIANS WILL WAIVE LANDING FEES ALL LOCATIONS AND NOT CHARGE FOR PARKING, BUT EXPECT US TO PAY FOR ALL ELSE. COSTS OF FUEL, ENGINEERING FACILITIES AND HOTAC TO FOLLOW WHEN KNOWN.

4. DETACHMENT VEHICLES ASSAB/BOLE CONFINED TO AIRFIELDS ONLY, NO WAIVER OF INSURANCE OR LOCAL LICENCING REQUIREMENT. HIRE OF LOCAL VEHICLES PREFERRED OPTION. DRIVERS MUST HAVE INT DRIVING LICENCE TO BE HELD BY ETHIOPIANS AGAINST ISSUE OF LOCAL LICENCE. VEHICLES IN SHORT SUPPLY PARTICULARLY DURING OAU CONFERENCE. WILL NEGOTIATE TODAY AND ADVISE.

CONFIDENTIAL

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5. ALL PERSONNEL LIABLE TO CUSTOMS CHECK ON ARRIVAL ADDIS. MUST HAVE CHOLERA AND YELLOW FEVER JABS AND GAMAGLOBULIN IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. SPARES ARRIVING BY CIVIL AIR MAY BE EXTRACTED RAPIDLY THROUGH CUSTOMS SHED BY COL. ECHETE - OTHERWISE 3 DAY PROCESS.

6. HOTAC ADDIS AVAILABLE HILTON OUTSIDE OAU CONFERENCE PERIODS. NEEDS ACCOMMODATION REQUIREMENT URGENTLY. ALL PERSONNEL BAR SENIOR OFFICERS MUST SHARE ROOMS UP TO 11 NOVEMBER. PERIOD 11 NOV - 17 NOV MAY STRETCH AS NO OAU CONFERENCE AGENDA EXISTS. DURING THIS PERIOD NO HOTAC IRRESPECTIVE OF PRESSURES WE MAY APPLY. ONLY ALTERNATE TENTAGE/CAMP KITCHEN/PLUS CHEMICAL TOILETS. AMBASSADOR HAS KINDLY AGREED TO OUT SITING CAMP - WHICH MUST BE TOTALLY SELF SUFFICIENT - WITHIN BRITISH EMBASSY COMPOUND WHICH IS SOME 15 MINS FROM AIRPORT. SITE IDEAL WITH SPORTS FACILITIES AVAILABLE AND SECURITY OF PERSONNEL ENSURED. LOCAL PURCHASE OF GOODS DIFFICULT IN FOOD MOST UNLIKELY. BRITISH EMBASSY STOCKS, INCLUSIVE OF WINES AND SPIRITS WOULD BE RAPIDLY DEPLETED IF ACCESS OFFERED. BEER CHEAP SPIRITS VERY EXPENSIVE. WATER MUST BE BOILED ALL LOCATIONS.

7. BRITISH EMBASSY MAY BE USED FOR SECURE COMMS, ALSO TELEX LINK AVAILABLE. OFTS AT AIRPORT. THOUGH DISLOCATE FROM OPS STAFF PROBABLE ACCOMMODATION. HF LINK TO ASSAB FROM AIRFIELD ESSENTIAL. HOWEVER, EMBASSY STAFF SMALL. AMBASSADOR REQUESTS COE MAINTAIN RAF PRESENCE THROUGHOUT DETACHMENT PERIOD. 2 OFFICERS PRESENTLY SUFFICIENT. MAY BE ABLE TO REDUCE TO 1 WHEN PATTERN OF OPS ESTABLISHED. NOMINEES MUST BE PV CLEARED AS WORKING IN A SECURE AREA. WE ARE.

8. FINANCE OF DETACHMENT INITIALLY THROUGH BRITISH EMBASSY. SEPARATE SIGNAL TO FOLLOW. ULTIMATELY OWN BANK ACCOUNT BEST MEANS THOUGH TIMELY TO SET UP. ASSAB DEPLOYED PERSONNEL TO DRAW FUNDS THROUGH SAME MEANS.

9. RULING OF WEARING OF UNIFORM REQUESTED FROM ETHIOPIANS. NOT BELIEVED CONTENTIOUS PROVIDED LIMITED TO DIRECT TRANSIT ACCOMMODATION TO PLACE OF WORK. ALL ELSE CIVILIAN CLOTHING MUST BE WORN. PERSONNEL DEPLOYED ADDIS MUST BRING JACKET AND TIE. LAUNDRY AVAILABLE AT ADDIS.

10. RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL POPULACE GOOD. OUR PRESENCE WELCOMED. ADDIS VERY SAFE FOR PERSONNEL TO EXPLORE AS THEY WISH. CURFEW MIDNIGHT TO 5. A.M. MUST BE OBSERVED.

11. AT ASSAB WE MUST ANTICIPATE BEING COMPLETELY SELF SUFFICIENT. MORGAN TO RECCE TODAY. LOCAL LABOUR IS AVAILABLE AND WILL DELIVER SACKED GRAIN TO AIRPORT FOR ON-LOADING. FURTHER SITREP TO FOLLOW.

<sup>2</sup>  
CONFIDENTIAL

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## CONFIDENTIAL

12. AT AXUM AND MAKALE AIRSTRIPS ARE SECURE AND DIRECT ROUTINGS AVOID KNOWN GUERRILLA ACTIVIT . LOCAL INTELLIGENCE NON EXISTANT. REPORTS ARE OF WHAT IS. BUT DO NOT ANTICIPATE EVENTS. HOWEVER ANALYSIS IS THAT GUERRILLA FACTIONS WOULD NOT TAKE ACTION AGAINST OUR AC WHICH ARE KNOWN TO BE DEPLOYING FOR FAMINE RELIEF. BUT THIS VERY UNCERTAIN. HENCE CONTENTIOUS AREAS BEST AVOIDED.

13. AIRSTRIP ATC SERVICE V/UHF BEING DEPLOYED THIS WEEKEND. NIL FIRE/CRASH COVER BOTH LOCATIONS. NIL POSSIBLE. LATEST AIRSTRIP INFORMATION FOLLOWS SEMICOLON WILL SEPARATELY RECCE AS AP, BUT AM DEPENDANT ON LOCAL AIRLIFT, TIMING OF WHICH IS UNKNOWN AT PRESENT:

A. AXUM. 1407N3843E, ELEV 7000 FT, RWY 12/30 1600 METRES X 52 METRES, GRASS, C130 CAPABLE, 1 1/2% UP RWY 12. GOOD

APPROACH EITHER DIRECTION THOUGH LOW HILLS TO N/W REQUIRE

CAUTION.

B. MAKALE. 1328N 3931E. 7320 FT ELEV, RWY 12/30 3000 MTR X 70 MTRS, GRAVEL, C130 CAPABLE, NIL OBSTRUCTIONS.

14. FUTURE MOVEMENTS ALIMATA AIRSTRIP POSSIBLE AS WORK IN PROGRESS TO EXTEND. HOWEVER SOFT SAND REPORTED. REQUEST YOU BRING LONE PENETROMETER FOR SURVEY CHECK.

BARDER

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

LIMITED

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OADS

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NENAD

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PARLIMENTARY UNIT

PS

PS/MR RIFKIND

PS/MR RAISON

PS/PUS

MR FERGUSSON

MR JOHNSON

SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )

EWAD )

ECD ) ODA

DU )

MR R BROWNING )

MR H ARBUTHNOTT )

DS 8 )

DS 11 )

D OF OPS (AS) ) MOD

DCS (ROW) )

IA -IB/DTP

3  
CONFIDENTIAL

1196

GR 590  
 RESTRICTED  
 DESKBY 311700Z  
 FM ADDIS ABABA 311510Z OCT 84  
 TO IMMEDIATE ODA  
 TELEGRAM NUMBER MODEV 035 OF 31 OCTOBER  
 INFO UKREP BRUSSELS, FCO (FOR EAD AND MAED)

RESTRICTED

Has D.V. <sup>yes</sup> seen this

PBMEWA 57/534/01

Amw

3/11/84

1163 & 1195 YOUR MODEVS U/N OF 30 OCTOBER AND 59 DROUGHT AID: CONFIRMING  
 TELECON BUIST/WILLIAMS.

1. HAVE DISCUSSED PARA 1 OF YOUR FIRST TUR SEPARATELY WITH  
 SCF/OXFAM AND SHEFFIELD (EC DELEGATE'S OFFICE). FOLLOWING IS  
 OUR OWN ASSESSMENT.

1231 Refs

2. PRIME NEEDS FOR EC AID SEEM FURTHER CEREALS (TO BE PHASED  
 IN THROUGH EARLY 1985), TRANSPORT (SEE BELOW) AND EDIBLE OILS  
 WITH VITAMIN-FORTIFIED SMP IN PROPORTION 1:2.

3. EC'S 25,000 TONNE CEREALS AID (PLANNED TO ARRIVE JANUARY  
 AND MARCH), WHICH INCLUDES INTERNAL TRANSPORT COSTS, IS FOR  
 FOOD-FOR-WORK PROGRAMMES IN ERITREA/TIGRAY OPERATED BY MINISTRY  
 OF AGRICULTURE. THESE WILL FOLLOW 20,000-TONNE PROGRAMME THIS  
 YEAR. LATTER IS OBVIOUSLY ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTIES BECAUSE  
 AREA IS DISTURBED, FARMER REWARDS AND SO MOTIVATION SEEM  
 UNCLEAR AND AGRICULTURAL MINISTRY STAFF (SEE BRD REPORT  
 4683A-ET OF 31 MAY) IS WEAK. CLEARLY PROGRAMME CANNOT BE  
 DISCONTINUED WITHOUT POLITICAL PROBLEMS BUT IT IS NOT (REPEAT  
 NOT) A SUBSTITUTE FOR FURTHER FOOD PROVIDED SOLELY FOR RELIEF.

4. ON TRANSPORT WE DO NOT (REPEAT NOT) FAVOUR MEETING CAFOD  
 REQUEST FOR 30-TONNE TRUCKS BILATERALLY AS THIS WOULD ADD TO  
 MAKES NOW DEPLOYED AND COMPLICATE MAINTENANCE AND SPARE  
 PARTS. SHEFFIELD SAYS EC AID SO FAR IS CONFINED TO MEETING  
 CRDA AND OTHER INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL TRANSPORT COSTS AND DOES  
 NOT INCLUDE HARDWARE. WE HAVE NOT (REPEAT NOT) YET SEEN  
 CRDA (O'KEEFE) BUT IF THEY NEED THEIR OWN TRUCKS IN ADDITION  
 TO HIRING LOCALLY THEN WE BELIEVE EC SHOULD PROVIDE THEM.  
 MANY VEHICLES NOW BEING USED (AND COMPONENTS) ARE MADE BY EC  
 MEMBER COUNTRIES, AND EC SUPPLY OF THESE AND SPARES SHOULD  
 BE VERY HIGH PRIORITY. HOWEVER THERE IS ALSO A NEED TO  
 ENCOURAGE MORE COORDINATED USE OF ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT'S OWN  
 FLEET, WHICH IS NOT UNDER CENTRALISED CONTROL, AND THIS MAY  
 REQUIRE MAINTENANCE TO GOING BEYOND PRESENT GERMAN/SWEDISH  
 EFFORTS.

RESTRICTED

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RESTRICTED

5. SCF/OXFAM HAVE EACH REQUESTED THREE LANDROVERS (PLUS 10% SPARES AND EXTRA WHEELS AND TYRES) IN PLACE OF ONE PREVIOUSLY SOUGHT. WE PROPOSE THEY BE PROVIDED ACCORDINGLY IN PLACE OF CAFOD TRUCKS. WILL CHECK CAFOD AND OTHER VOLAG LANDROVER NEEDS ASAP.

6. YOUR SECOND TUR: DRILLING RIGS. SCF EMPHASISE RIGHTLY THAT THESE MUST BE UNDER CONTROL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION (WRC), NOT RRC (ON WHOSE BEHALF SCF MADE REQUEST). THEY SHOULD BE PROVIDED ON THAT CONDITION (THROUGH RRC) AND ON UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WILL INITIALLY BE DEPLOYED IN WOLLO. SUPPLY URGENCY IS GEARED TO ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT TO EXTENSION OF SCF FEEDING CENTRES (STILL BEING SOUGHT). WRC ALREADY USING HALGO VARITORK V493 SO THIS MODEL SHOULD CAUSE NO ASSIMILATION PROBLEMS.

7. SOME OTHER ITEMS URGENTLY NEEDED. SCF/ OXFAM WANT 50-100 TENTS (AVAILABLE NAIROBI EX FACTORY AT ABOUT £1200 EACH) FLOWN IN PLUS CAMPING EQUIPMENT TO SUPPORT EXPECTED EXPANSION OF FEEDING CENTRES AND OTHER OPERATIONS. THEY COULD GET THESE THROUGH THEIR OR CROWN AGENTS NAIROBI OFFICES. BUT THEY ALSO WANT SIXTEEN HEAVY DUTY TENTS CAPABLE OF ACTING AS 50-TONNE LOCAL GRAIN STORES PLUS ONE 100-TONNE STORE, WITH ACCOMPANYING GROUND SHEETS ETC. HOWEVER SPEED IS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN PROVISION OF EXACT SPECIFICATIONS, AND WE UNDERSTAND EVEN ARMY MARQUEES WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE IF WIND-RESISTANT AND WITH GROUND SHEETS.

8. GRATEFUL FOR ADVANCE WARNING OF ETA OF TWO 707S MENTIONED BY OSBORNE, PLUS DETAILS OF CONSIGNEES AND CONFIRMATION THAT RECEPTION ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE. WHAT HELP IS NEEDED FROM US OVER THIS?

BARDER

MINIMAL  
EAD  
MAED

2

RESTRICTED

1195.

1146 Refs.

OUTWARD

31 OCT 1984

ODFO 2/31

OO ADDIS ABABA

RR NAIROBI

GPS 55  
RESTRICTED  
FM ODA LONDON 310901Z OCT84  
TO IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA  
MODEV 59 OF 31 OCT  
INFO NAIROBI (FOR EADD)

for 57/534/01  
A.1/11

FOR BUIST FROM EWAD

WE ARE CONSIDERING BUYING ONE OR MORE WATER DRILLING RIGS TO SEND TO ETHIOPIA AT REQUEST OF GOE AND SCF. GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD ADVISE OF NECESSITY AND URGENCY OF THIS REPLY SOONEST.

HOWE

NNNN

MR CADWALLADER E803

PERF 310902Z OCT84 JD//

1194

RESTRICTED

14010 - 1

DD 010400Z ADDIS ABABA

PP NAIROBI

1228 Refers.

GRS 81  
RESTRICTED  
DESKBY 010400Z  
FM FCO 312015Z OCT 84  
TO IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 270 OF 31 OCTOBER  
INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK,  
INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON AND NAIROBI (EADD)

1193 YOUR TELNO 326

HERCULES RELIEF OPS

BONEWA 57/534/01  
WJW  
3/4

1. PLEASE ACT AS YOU HAVE RECOMMENDED .
2. WE HAVE HELD UP OPERATION BUSHELL ACCORDINGLY. WE HAVE ALSO INFORMED ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR, IMPRESSING ON HIM POINTS IN LAST SENTENCE OF YOUR PARA 2 (B), AND SUGGESTING THAT HE TOO MAKES THEM TO MFA .
3. TELS RE DJIBOUTI ARE BEING REPEATED TO YOU .

HOWE

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/MR RAISON  
PS/PUS  
MR FERGUSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

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| MR BUIST        | ) |     |
| EWAD            | ) |     |
| ECD             | ) | ODA |
| DU              | ) |     |
| MR R BROWNING   | ) |     |
| MR H ARBUTHNOTT | ) |     |
| DS 8            | ) |     |
| DS 11           | ) |     |
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GR 570  
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FM ADDIS ABABA 311830Z OCT 84  
TO FLASH FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 326 OF 31 OCTOBER  
INFO FLASH MODUK  
INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, NAIROBI (FOR EADD), SANA'A

1194 Refs.  
1291 Refs.

TELECON 31/10 WENBAN-SMITH/BARDER: ETHIOPIA RELIEF - RAF  
HERCULES ASSISTANCE.

for 57/534/01  
11/84

SUMMARY.

1. ETHIOPIAN AIRLIFT COORDINATOR SAYS NO ROOM AT ADDIS FOR ALL AIRCRAFT NOW PROMISED: ALLOCATES RAF TO ASSAB OR DJIBOUTI. RECOMMENDATION: DEFER HERCULES DEPARTURE FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS: PRESS ETHIOPIAN MFA AND AIRLIFT COORDINATOR TO AGREE TO ARRIVAL OF HERCULES AT ADDIS AS PLANNED (BUT 24 HOURS LATER) WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO SUBSEQUENT DECISION AS BETWEEN ADDIS AND DJIBOUTI.

DETAIL.

2. WHEN SQN LDR MORLEY SAW ESHETE (CHAIRMAN, EMERGENCY AIRLIFT COORDINATING COMMITTEE) THIS EVENING (31), ESHETE SAID THERE WERE TOO MANY AIRCRAFT NOW PROMISED FOR INTERNAL RELIEF TRANSPORT TO PERMIT ALL TO BE BASED AT BOLE (ADDIS ABABA): THERE WAS NOT ENOUGH SPACE AT BOLE FOR PARKING. (HE HAD EARLIER MENTIONED ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS DURING OAU SUMMIT, FROM ABOUT 11 TO 17 NOVEMBER, WHEN NUMEROUS VIP AIRCRAFT WILL BE PARKED AT BOLE.) HE HAD ACCORDINGLY DEvised A MASTER PLAN UNDER WHICH HE HAD ALLOCATED RAF TO ASSAB AS OPERATING BASE. MORLEY, DRAWING ON FINDINGS FROM SQN LDR MORGAN'S VISIT TO ASSAB EARLIER TODAY, SAID THIS WAS OPERATIONALLY IMPOSSIBLE (BECAUSE OF WIND AND SAND, AMONG OTHER PROBLEMS). ESHETE APPEARED TO ACCEPT THIS AND SUGGESTED DJIBOUTI, MENTIONED EARLIER AS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO ADDIS, WITH MAJOR OPERATING ADVANTAGES (SEA LEVEL, NEARER TO ASSAB, EXCELLENT FACILITIES AND COMMUNICATIONS). HE SAID: 'PLEASE GO TO DJIBOUTI.' MORLEY SUGGESTED RAF SHOULD COME AS PLANNED TO ADDIS IN FIRST PLACE WITH DEFERRAL OF DECISION ON EVENTUAL LOCATION BUT ESHETE WAS BY NOW TOO FAR COMMITTED TO REINSTATE ADDIS. HE AGREED TO SEE MORLEY AGAIN FIRST THING 1 NOVEMBER IF HE WISHED.

3. ESHETE SEEMS UNLIKELY TO BE BUDGED AND IF DECISION IS TO BE REVERSED OR DEFERRED IT WILL HAVE TO BE DECIDED AT POLITICAL LEVEL.

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4. WE CANNOT ENTIRELY EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT THIS 11TH-HOUR HITCH REFLECTS HIDDEN SOVIET PRESSURES, MOTIVATED BY FEARS OVER POLITICAL AND PRESENTATIONAL BLOW TO THEM IF RAF GETS IN FIRST WITH HUGE INTERNATIONAL PUBLICITY. BUT WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE TO PROCEEDING ON ASSUMPTION THAT ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT DESCRIBED BY ESHETE.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

5. I RECOMMEND, AND MORLEY AND MORGAN AGREE, THAT -

A. HERCULES' DEPARTURE FOR AKROTHIRI BE DEFERRED FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS. ALTERNATIVE IS FOR THEM TO GO AND AWAIT DECISION AT AKROTHIRI. BUT IF DECISION IS LONG DELAYED, E.G. WHILE HMG SEEKS DJIBOUTI GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT, THERE WOULD BE REAL RISK OF THEM HAVING TO RETURN TO UK, WHICH I ASSUME WOULD BE PRESENTATIONALLY VERY BAD:

B. I SHOULD TRY TO SEE FOREIGN MINISTER, OR FAILING HIM MOST SENIOR AVAILABLE MFA OFFICIAL, FIRST THING ON 1 NOVEMBER TO URGE IMMEDIATE AGREEMENT TO AIRCRAFT COMING TO ADD 24 HOURS BEHIND SCHEDULE TO START OPERATING FROM HERE, WHILE DECISION IS TAKEN ON THEIR LONGER-TERM LOCATION: I E WHETHER TO LEAVE THEM HERE OR TO TRANSFER THEM TO DJIBOUTI. THIS WOULD ENABLE THEM TO START THEIR WORK WHILE MATTER IS DISCUSSED AND IF NECESSARY NEGOTIATIONS CONDUCTED WITH DJIBOUTI GOVERNMENT. I WOULD STRESS POTENTIALLY LETHAL EFFECTS ON SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT IN UK IF ETHIOPIANS INSISTED ON WHAT MIGHT BE LENGTHY DELAY IN STARTING OPERATIONS:

C. MORLEY SHOULD TAKE SIMULTANEOUS ACTION AS IN (B) WITH ESHETE.

6. GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTIONS BY 010400Z.

BARDER

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MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)  
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| MR BUIST        | ) |     |
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| MR H ARBUTHNOTT | ) |     |
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 DESKBY 311615Z  
 FM ADDIS ABABA 311415Z OCT 84  
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 325 OF 31 OCTOBER  
 INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK

1241 Refs.

COI TELNO RETRACT 071 AND TEL 311110Z FROM HQ 1 GP REQUESTING  
 CLEARANCE FOR 2 TRI-STARS: ETHIOPIA RELIEF - TRI-STARS WITH  
 RELIEF SUPPLIES.

From 57/534/01  
 1/11/84

1. I GATHER THE TWO RAF TRI-STAR 500S FOR WHICH WE ARE ASKED  
 TO SEEK DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE (ACTION IN HAND) ARE THE SAME AS  
 THE TWO TRI-STAR 500S MENTIONED IN COI RETRACT UNDER REFERENCE.

2. YOU AND RAF WILL NO DOUBT BEAR IN MIND THAT MR MAXWELL'S  
 TRI-STAR 200 (LIGHTER THAN 500) WAS 30 TONNES OVERWEIGHT FOR  
 BOLE RUNWAYS. SUGGEST RAF SEEKS CLEARANCE THROUGH ITS OWN  
 CHANNELS FOR WAIVER OF RUNWAY WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS. WE WILL  
 ACT LIKEWISE HERE.

3. GRATEFUL FOR CONFIRMATION THAT SUPPLIES BEING CARRIED BY THE  
 TWO AIRCRAFT ARE CONSIGNED TO SPECIFIC RELIEF ORGANISATIONS  
 OR OTHERS HERE WHO ARE EXPECTING THEM AND HAVE CONFIRMED THAT  
 THEY ARE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO RECEIVE THEM, ORGANISE AND  
 PAY FOR UNLOADING, TRANSPORT, STORAGE, ETC. (IT WOULD BE  
 HELPFUL TO KNOW WHO THE RECIPIENTS ARE.)

4. ARRIVAL TIME OF FIRST TRI-STAR IS VERY CLOSE TO ARRIVAL OF  
 SECOND BATCH OF RAF HERCULES ON 3 NOVEMBER. ETHIOPIANS  
 MIGHT FIND IT DIFFICULT TO COPE WITH SO MANY ARRIVALS IN  
 SUCH A SHORT SPACE OF TIME. THEY MAY THEREFORE REQUEST SOME  
 POSTPONEMENT.

BARDER

## ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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 PS/MR RIFKIND  
 PS/MR RAISON  
 PS/PUS  
 MR FERGUSSON  
 MR JOHNSON  
 SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

## COPIES TO:

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| MR BUIST        | ) |     |
| EWAD            | ) |     |
| ECD             | ) | ODA |
| DU              | ) |     |
| MR R BROWNING   | ) |     |
| MR H ARBUTHNOTT | ) |     |
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GR 330  
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 DESKBY 311530Z  
 FM ADDIS ABABA 311425Z OCT 84  
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 323 OF 31 OCTOBER  
 INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK \*  
 INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, UKNIS GENEVA

For 57/534/01  
 Amw  
 1/11/84

1156 YOUR TELNO 265: ETHIOPIA RELIEF - RAF.

1. YOUR PARA 4: I SUGGEST YOU OR MOD TRY TO ENSURE THAT JOURNALISTS ALL HAVE VISAS APPROPRIATE FOR WORKING PRESS, NOT, REPEAT NOT, TOURIST VISAS.
2. YOUR PARA 5: CONFIRM NO OPERATIONAL OBJECTIONS TO TIMING PROPOSED. WE ARE PUTTING THIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO COL ESHETE, TOGETHER WITH REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION THAT VISAS WILL BE ISSUED ON ARRIVAL (YOUR TELNO 262), BUT DO NOT EXPECT TO MAKE CONTACT WITH HIM BEFORE ABOUT 311400Z. EVEN THEN HE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE US IMMEDIATE REPLIES. MEANWHILE, SUGGEST RAF GIVES FULL LIST OF NAMES AND DETAILS TO ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY WITH REQUEST THAT THEY TELEX IT TO MFA AND RRC WITH ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR'S PERSONAL REQUEST FOR VISAS TO BE AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY ON ARRIVAL. WE SHALL ACT IN PARALLEL HERE.
3. YOUR SECOND PARA 5: SQN LDR MORLEY IS CURRENTLY MAKING CHOICE BETWEEN ACCOMMODATION AT ILCA OR AT HILTON. IF HILTON, OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE NECESSARY DURING OAU CONFERENCE (ABOUT 11 TO ABOUT 17 NOVEMBER). HE WILL TELEGRAPH OUTCOME TO MOD.
4. YOUR PARA 7: WEAPONS. MORLEY HAS PUT THIS TO ESHETE WHOSE FIRST REACTION WAS FAIRLY STRONGLY AGAINST RAF BRINGING WEAPONS, ALTHOUGH HE IS CONSIDERING AND CONSULTING. MY OWN VIEW IS THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER NOT, REPEAT NOT, TO BRING ANY WEAPONS. MORLEY IS REASONABLY SATISFIED WITH PROPOSED SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE AIRCRAFT AT ADDIS, AND AT ASSAB

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AN UNARMED RAF GUARD WOULD PROBABLY BE ADEQUATE DETERRENT.  
IF CREWS FOUND THEMSELVES THREATENED BY REBELS DURING OPERATIONS,  
I CAN IMAGINE NO, REPEAT NO, CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH PRODUCTION,  
STILL LESS USE, OF FIRE-ARMS COULD DO ANYTHING BUT MAKE  
MATTERS WORSE. SHOOTING IN CONTEXT OF RELIEF WORK WOULD HAVE  
DISASTROUS EFFECTS, AND WOULD IN MY VIEW INCREASE RATHER THAN  
REDUCE PERSONAL RISKS TO THE CREWS. GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTIONS  
ON WHETHER TO PURSUE THIS FURTHER WITH ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES.

BARDER

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PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/MR RAISON  
PS/PUS  
MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

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| MR BUIST        | ) |     |
| EWAD            | ) |     |
| ECD             | ) | ODA |
| DU              | ) |     |
| MR R BROWNING   | ) |     |
| MR H ARBUTHNOTT | ) |     |
| DS 8            | ) |     |
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FM ADDIS ABABA 310655Z OCT 84  
TO PRIORITY FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 322 OF 31 OCTOBER  
INFO PRIORITY ODA, MODUK, WASHINGTON, MOSCOW, SOFIA, EAST BERLIN  
MY TELNO 312: ETHIOPIA RELIEF - AID FROM EASTERN EUROPE.

1. ETHIOPIAN MEDIA ANNOUNCED LATE ON 30 OCTOBER THAT PRESIDENT CHERNENKO HAD INFORMED THAIRMAN MENGISTU OF SOVIET INTENTION TO SEND QUICKLY 300 VEHICLES, 12 TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT, 24 HELICOPTERS WITH NECESSARY SUPPORTS, ALL FOR TRANSPORTING RELIEF SUPPLIES IN ETHIOPIA, 1000 MT RICE, 10 WATER-WELL DRILLING RIGS WITH INSTRUMENTS AND EXPERTS. RICE AND 1 RIG HAVE ALREADY ARR ZED ANE BEEN PRESENTED.

BARDER

THIS TELEGRAM  
WAS NOT  
ADVANCED

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PS/MR RALSON  
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MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)  
PARTY UNIT

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )  
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MR H ARBUTHNOTT )

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DESKBY 010500Z

FM FCO 311510Z OCTOBER 84

TO IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 269 OF 31 OCTOBER

AND TO IMMEDIATE MODUK DESKBY 311700Z

1168

MODUK SIGNAL 301821Z OCT 84

VISAS FOR RAF PERSONNEL

FOLLOWING CONFIRMS TELCON BARDER/WENBAN-SMITH

1. ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY ARE ISSUING WORKING VISAS FOR FIVE OUR-NALISTS FORTHWITH. NAMES TO FOLLOW.

2. EMBASSY AGREE THAT FLIGHTS MAY PROCEED ON BASIS THAT

(A) MOD PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH A COPY OF AMENDED VERSION OF LIST IN SIGNAL UNDER REF. (NOW DONE).

(B) YOU WILL (PERSONALLY IF POSSIBLE) PRESENT SAME LIST SOONEST TO EITHER THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RRC OR TO THE HEAD OF THE AID COORDINATION COMMITTEE (MOHAMED FNU). MODUK ARE SIGNALLING THE AMENDMENTS TO YOU.

3. NAMES OF THOSE TO BE PICKED UP IN CYPRUS HAVE, WE GATHER, BEEN SENT TO YOU SEPARATELY. THEY WILL BE ON LIST GIVEN TO EMBASSY AND SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN YOURS TOO.

From EWA 57/534/01

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MR FERGUSSON

MR JOHNSON

SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )

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FM FCO 311100Z OCTOBER 84

FLASH ADDIS ABABA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 267 OF 31 OCT

INFO ROUTINE ODA

YOUR TELNO 321: TRISTAR PASSENGER LIST

1. DETAILS OF PASSENGERS ARE AS FOLLOWS: - IAN ROBERT MAXWELL  
D.O.B. 10.6.23 PPT NO 138463D ISSUED LONDON 21.7.81 PUBLISHER  
KENT GAVIN. D.O.B. 11.8.39 PPT. NO B092714 ISSUED LONDON  
NOVEMBER 1978. PHOTOGRAPHER.

ALISTAIR JOHN CAMPBELL. D.O.B. 25.5.57. PPT. NO. P822906A  
ISSUED PETERBOROUGH 23.2.76. REPORTER..

BRENDAN PATRICK MONKS. D.O.B. 21.10.47 (IRISH) PPT. NO.  
J202184 ISSUED DUBLIN 24.1.83. PHOTOGRAPHER.

JOHN SMITH. D.O.B. 17.12.36. PPT. NO. B041921. ISSUED LONDON  
FEB. 1976. REPORTER.

COLIN JOHN BAKER. D.O.B. 11.4.48. PPT NO. 683969C. ISSUED  
LONDON 5.6.80. I.T.N. REPORTER.

PATRICK MICHAEL INGLIS. D.O.B. 2.6.51. PPT. NO. 505436E.  
ISSUED LONDON 23.7. 84. I.T.N. CAMERAMAN.

RICHARD DAVID ROSE. D.O.B. 8.10.55. PPT. NO. P952562B.  
ISSUED PETERBOROUGH. 28.5.80. I.T.N. SOUND RECORDER

STEPHEN JOHN LLOYD. D.O.B. 27.12.49 PPT. NO. C274613A. ISSUED  
BHC DACCA. 25.10.78. OXFAM OVERSEAS ACCOUNTANT.

JOHN HOBSON COULTER. D.O.B. 11.7.46. PPT. NO. N741289D.  
ISSUED NEWPORT GWENT 14.6.84. OXFAM LIAISON OFFICER.

2. DETAILS OF CARGO WEIGHTS WILL FOLLOW AS SOON AS THEY ARE  
AVAILABLE.

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MR FERGUSSON

MR JOHNSON

SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )

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 DESKBY 310900Z ODA  
 FM ADDIS ABABA 310610Z OCT 84  
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 321 OF 31 OCTOBER  
 INFO IMMEDIATE ODA

1188 *laks.*

*1155* YOUR TELNO 264: TRISTAR CARGO AND PASSENGER LISTS.

1. CARGO LIST IN YTUR PASSED TO RRC AND SCF. BUT WITHOUT WEIGHTS OF CLOTHING, SHEETING, FEEDING KITS AND BISCUITS, IT IS STILL IMPOSSIBLE TO FINALISE TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS.
2. SIMILARLY WITHOUT PASSENGER LISTS, THERE IS SERIOUS RISK OF NOT BEING ABLE TO GET TRAVEL PERMITS FOR JOURNALISTS TO ACCOMPANY THE SUPPLIES TO WELO, AND WE MAY ALSO RUN INTO DIFFICULTIES OVER VISAS. WE HAVE LESS THAN 24 HOURS BEFORE AIRCRAFT'S ARRIVAL. PLEASE TELEGRAPH REMAINING INFORMATION ON CARGO AND PASSENGERS FLASH.

BARDER

*1 Bon EWA 57/584/01*  
*2/11/84*

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COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )  
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DESKBY 010500Z

FM FCO 311845Z OCTOBER 84

TO IMMEDIATE SANA'A DESKBY 010500Z

TELEGRAM NUMBER 137 OF 31 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA DESKBY 010500Z

IMMEDIATE MODUK (DS8), PARIS

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, UKMIS GENEVA, UKMIS NEW YORK

ETHIOPIA: RELIEF OPERATION BY RAF HERCULES

MIPT

1. BROAD REQUIREMENT IS FOR A DETACHMENT LASTING THREE MONTHS  
 OPERATING TWO C130 AIRCRAFT USING ASSAB AS FORWARD BASE. DETACHMENT  
 WOULD TOTAL SOME 80 PERSONNEL INCLUDING 25 OFFICERS. MILITARY OR  
 OTHER ACCOMMODATION PREFERRED BUT OWN TENTAGE CAN BE BROUGHT AND IF  
 NECESSARY DETACHMENT COULD BE SELF SUFFICIENT. PARKING WOULD  
 BE REQUIRED FOR UP TO FOUR AIRCRAFT INITIALLY. DAILY FUEL  
 UPLIFT WOULD BE 50-60 CUBIC METRES ET A1 PER DAY.

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MR FERGUSON

MR JOHNSON

SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )

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DESKBY 010500Z

FM FCO 311830Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE SANA'A

TELEGRAM NUMBER 136 OF 31 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA (DESKBY 010500Z)

IMMEDIATE MODUK (DS8)

IMMEDIATE PARIS

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, UKMIS GENEVA, UKMIS NEW YORK

PBOWEN 57/534/01  
3/11/84

ETHIOPIA: RELIEF OPERATION BY RAF HERCULES

SUMMARY

1. THE ETHIOPIANS HAVE MADE PROBLEMS OVER THE USE OF ADDIS FOR THIS OPERATION. WE WISH TO PURSUE URGENTLY THE POSSIBILITY OF BASING OURSELVES ON DIBOUTI.

DETAIL

2. WE HAVE AGREED WITH ETHIOPIANS TO MAKE AVAILABLE TWO HERCULES AIRCRAFT OF THE RAF FOR RELIEF OPERATIONS WITHIN ETHIOPIA FOR A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE. THEY WILL BE TAKING SUPPLIES TO MAKELLE AND AXUM IN THE NORTH OF THE COUNTRY. THE AIRCRAFT WERE DUE TO DEPART TONIGHT, ACCOMPANIED BY A THIRD AIRCRAFT CARRYING ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES. THREE FURTHER AIRCRAFT WERE DUE TO LEAVE 24 HOURS LATER WITH ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT. ALL BUT TWO WOULD OF COURSE RETURN TO UK AFTER MAKING THEIR DELIVERIES.

3. THE ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES ORIGINALLY OFFERED US THE USE OF ADDIS AS AN OPERATING BASE BUT HAVE NOW SAID THAT OWING TO THE PLETHORA OF AIRCRAFT BEING PUT AT THEIR DISPOSAL, AND OWING TO THE IMMINENCE OF THE FORTHCOMING OAU SUMMIT (SCHEDULED FOR 12-15 NOVEMBER), THEY WOULD PREFER US TO USE ASSAB OR DIBOUTI.

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ASSAB IS RULED OUT ON TECHNICAL GROUNDS. WE NEED TO KNOW WITH THE UTMOST URGENCY WHETHER THE DIBOUTI GOVERNMENT COULD AGREE TO OUR BASING THIS OPERATION ON THE AIRPORT AT DIBOUTI.

4. THE FRENCH HAVE AGREED TO TRANSMIT OUR ENQUIRY VIA THEIR EMBASSY IN DIBOUTI, BUT DO NOT EXPECT TO HAVE A REACTION BEFORE FRIDAY 02 NOVEMBER. WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD TRY TO GET A FASTER REACTION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE FRENCH IN DIBOUTI.

5. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WE SHALL SUCCEED IN NEGOTIATING AN ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY WE ARE ALLOWED TO USE ADDIS FOR A WEEK BEFORE MOVING ELSEWHERE. BUT IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, WE SHOULD LIKE OUR OPERATION TO BEGIN AS SOON AS DJIBOUTI CAN GIVE THEIR AGREEMENT. GRATEFUL SITREP BY 1200Z TOMORROW, FIRST NOVEMBER

6. FOR DETAILS OF THE RAF REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCOMMODATION, FUEL ETC SEE MIFT.

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ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/MR RAISON  
PS/PUS  
MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

|                 |   |     |
|-----------------|---|-----|
| MR BUIST        | ) |     |
| EWAD            | ) |     |
| ECD             | ) | ODA |
| DU              | ) |     |
| MR R BROWNING   | ) |     |
| MR H ARBUTHNOTT | ) |     |
| DS 8            | ) |     |
| DS 11           | ) |     |
| D OF OPS (AS)   | ) |     |
| DCS (ROW)       | ) | MOD |
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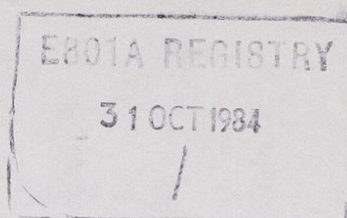
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provided.  
31/10  
E801A  
Pse PB

Mr Hault  
Would you please  
provide note to ECD on X  
30/10  
Smith

0/0.  
1184.  
Reference EUR 502/503/08

Ms J V Hanna  
Mr G A Williams  
Mr H Britton ✓



PS/Mr Raison fi  
Mr Browning fi  
Mr P D M Freeman or  
Ms A M Archbold  
Mr J M Winter or  
Mr M Carberry ECD(E)  
Mr D Crapper  
Mr J. Murphy

DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: 6 NOVEMBER 1984

1. The Minister will be attending the European Community Development Council in Brussels on Tuesday 6 November. I understand he will be accompanied by Mr Freeman and Mr Winter.

Mr Arbuthnot

2. The agenda will be as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of A points
3. Commission report on the implementation of Food Strategies in four African countries.
4. Consideration of the conclusions of the expert group on the Plan to combat the effects of drought in the Sahel.
5. Famine in Africa (at the request of the UK).
6. Study on the nutritional value of Food Aid.
7. Guidelines for the 1985 Non Associates programme.
8. The Environmental Dimension of the Community's Development Policy.
9. Any Other Business. The Dutch Minister is expected to make statements on the quality of EC Aid, and on the Lisbon Declaration.

The discussion of Famine in Africa will be the main item on the agenda and is expected to take up most of the time.

3. I should be grateful for briefs to be provided as follows:

Famine in Africa (particularly Ethiopia)

Please would Ms Hanna provide a brief on the Community response to the situation, in collaboration with Mr Williams. Would Mr Britton please provide a short background note on the UK's response to the situation.

Food Strategies

I understand Mr Williams and Mrs Wyeth have this in hand.

Study on Nutritional Value of Food Aid

This will only be a preliminary exchange of views, as the study has just appeared. Please would Mr Williams provide a brief on this.

Lome Renegotiations

Mr McCulloch has also asked for a brief on the Lome renegotiations, which are likely to come up in the margins of the meeting. Ms Hanna has agreed to provide this.

4. Briefs should be in the form 'Objectives', 'Points to Make' and (on a separate page) 'Essential Facts', and cleared with the Economic Service, ECD(E) and any other interested parties. I am sorry that I have to ask for them by Wednesday 31 October at 1pm in order to allow time for submission to Mr Freeman, typing in final form and photocopying.

*Rhianon Rees.*

Miss R Rees  
European Community Department

30 October 1984

Reference... U/5

129  
1183a

FROM: A J SMYTH

DATE: 30 OCTOBER 1984

cc. A T Wilson Esq., CNRA,  
ODA

A Peers Esq., ODA  
M J Wilson Esq., ODA

Dr D Osborne  
EWAD, ODA

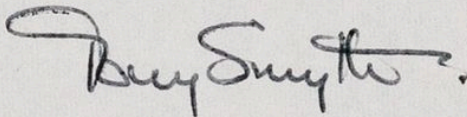
1342 Refs.

ETHIOPIA

I imagine that the scale of recent events in Ethiopia and the public interest which these have attracted may lead to consideration of the possibility of a longer term ODA programme in the natural resources field in that country.

I appreciate it may be some little while before this can be seriously considered but, even so, I would like to make the suggestion that one of the first things ODA might offer could be a rapid overview of the land resource and agricultural production situation in selected areas. Such work could be undertaken or, at least, coordinated by LRDC.

I would be happy to expand on this proposal if and when you feel it would be useful to do so.



A J Smyth  
Director  
30 October 1984

E 801A. 1183.  
P.A.  
John Leslie  
11/11/84

# Overseas Development Administration

Eland House Stag Place London SW1E 5DH

Press Office 01-213 4909

30 October 1984

## FAMINE RELIEF FOR ETHIOPIA: MINISTER'S STATEMENT

The following statement was made by Mr Timothy Raison, MP, Minister for Overseas Development to the House of Commons today (30 October).

"The House knows of the very deep concern felt throughout the country at the effects of famine in Ethiopia - and indeed in other countries. Last Wednesday my Rt Hon and learned Friend the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs announced three important further measures designed to help tackle the problem. These follow the substantial steps that we and the European Community were already taking, almost £10 million from the British aid programme in the last eighteen months, including our share of over £24 million from the European Community.

The new measures were: first, the despatch by the UK of a further 6,000 tonnes of food aid; second, the allocation of a further £5 million for spending on famine relief in Ethiopia and other African countries; and third a pledge to press the European Community for additional action.

The House will wish me to report on the action we have put in hand.

On Saturday night, my noble Friend the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence, Lord Trefgarne, and I met in London Commissioner Dawit, Head of the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission.

I informed him of the additional 6,000 tonnes of grain, which will be shipped within the next few days. We discussed ways of speeding up the transport and distribution of supplies through the port.

I agreed that we should draw on our £5 million offer to provide dump trucks to help with unloading at the port of Assab and Landrovers and spare parts for them to help with distribution. I also agreed to supply water drilling rigs and medical requirements.

In addition, we told him of our offer of a Royal Air Force detachment of two Hercules and the appropriate support to undertake internal relief operations within the famine areas. There was some discussion about this offer, but I can tell the House that it has been agreed that we will make the detachment available for three months. The initial deployment will involve several additional flights to Ethiopia to ensure that our detachment is self-sufficient and fully equipped for the task. So far as we are concerned the first two aircraft are ready to leave tomorrow. Two RAF officers have now arrived in Addis Ababa to discuss urgently the practical arrangements.

I am sure these aircraft will make a very valuable contribution to distributing food to where it is most needed.

I have also agreed to make available two further civil aircraft - one of them a Hercules - to support the voluntary agencies who are doing such a fine job in Ethiopia. Both will take out relief supplies and the Hercules will stay in Ethiopia for some weeks for use by the International Committee of the Red Cross. We are also paying for some of the supplies needed. I had this morning a constructive discussion of priorities and implementation with the Disasters Emergency Committee led by Lord Hunt.

All this represents a very significant British contribution. In addition, the European Community is taking valuable action.

So far this year the European Community has already made direct allocations of 53,000 tonnes of cereals and 3,000 tonnes of other products to Ethiopia. But the needs of Ethiopia are so great that we have pressed the Community to do more. Following my Rt Hon Friend the Prime Minister's message to Dr Fitzgerald, President of the European Council, the Council's Budget Committee has approved and the European Parliament is to consider today a special programme of food and transport assistance worth £20 million, of which the British share would be about £4.5 million.

The needs of Ethiopia and other parts of drought-stricken Africa will be further discussed by Community Foreign Ministers in Ireland at the end of the week and by the Development Council - which I shall attend - in Brussels next Tuesday.

We have been active in other international organisations. The Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA), the supervisory body of the World Food Programme, is currently meeting in Rome. On a British initiative the meeting is giving priority to the needs of Ethiopia.

At the same time, other Western donors have offered increased assistance.

The grave problem of drought in Ethiopia and other parts of Africa cannot be solved overnight or by one massive airlift. But the measures we have announced are valuable in themselves and have given an important lead. "



1182.

BRITISH EMBASSY

STOCKHOLM

30 October 1984

B MacKenzie Esq  
EAD  
FCO

*Dear Bruce*

SWEDISH AID TO ETHIOPIA

1. It was announced on 25 October that Sweden is to make a further contribution of emergency aid to help combat the effects of drought in Ethiopia. This will take the form of SEK 12m being given to NGOs active in Ethiopia (inter alia the Red Cross) and 10,000 tons of wheat (worth SEK 15m) being sent direct to Ethiopia by the Government (£1 = SEK 10.5). Sweden has also contributed SEK 15m to the WFP programme of emergency aid to Ethiopia.

2. Sweden has previously already given some SEK 56m worth of emergency aid to Ethiopia in the last year in addition to its annual SEK 100m country programme allocation.

*Yours ever,  
Gareth Williams*

cc: Chancery Addis Ababa  
EWAD/ODA  
Disaster Unit/ODA

G S Williams  
Third Secretary

*Noted.*

*PBm 51/524/01*

*Wm  
2/11/84*

FROM: H J ARBUTHNOTT

DATE: 30 OCTOBER 1984

cc: PS/Mr Raison  
 Sir Crispin Tickell  
 Mr Browning  
 Mr Freeman (O/R)  
 Mr Murphy  
 Mr Pettitt  
 Mr Frost  
 Miss Cherry  
 Mr Wenban-Smith,  
 EAD/FCO  
 Mr Crowe,  
 ECD(E)/FCO  
 Mr Williams,  
 UND/FCO

Dr Osborne

ETHIOPIA: NON EC MULTILATERAL AID

I minuted to you on 30 October (not copied to all) about Ethiopia and the EC and about certain aspects of the World Food Programme. This minute is concerned with other multilateral agencies and the role they might have in the Ethiopia crisis.

2. I attach a brief account of what these organisations are doing already. The rest of this minute concerns the future. In most cases this will be long-term but there are one or two exceptions.

#### International Financial Institutions (IFIs)

3. The IFIs (in this case the World Bank Group, African Development Fund and International Fund for Agricultural Development) have no immediate role in disaster relief. There was discussion, however, at the Under Secretaries' meeting on 30 October in relation to longer term measures to help Ethiopia. It was suggested that some of the multilateral organisations would be best placed to cope with this, the EC and the World Bank Group in particular. The African Development Fund and IFAD (if it survives) might also be able to play a role although a much smaller one.

#### UN Bodies

##### (a) UNICEF

4. You will have seen from Rome telno 739 that WFP has launched its initiative with UNICEF and UNDRO to co-ordinate all aspects of food supply for Ethiopia. It looks as though in this case, UNICEF is only acting as WFP's agent. But UNICEF has its own programmes in Africa. Mr Pettitt is therefore considering with Finance Department and your department whether money can be found for an extra donation to UNICEF (possibly part of the £5 million) in the region of £500-750,000. Sir Bernard Ledwidge, the Chairman of the United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF, telephoned Sir Crispin Tickell on 30 October to ask whether we could announce a special donation at a meeting in New York on 31 October.

/(b)

(b) FAO

5. A brief report on the problems of agriculture in Africa is already on the agenda for the November meeting of the FAO Council. We intend to use this opportunity to encourage FAO to be more forceful in advocating sensible agricultural policies in African Governments. We also propose to press for the immediate re-direction of some existing resources to an examination of the problem of rehabilitating agriculture in the worst affected areas when the drought recedes.

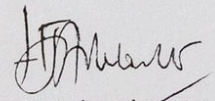
(c) UNDP

6. Decisions are to be made in 1985 on the target for UNDP resource mobilisation for 1987 to 1991 and the allocation of resources among the recipients. It is unlikely that overall resources will grow much, if at all, in real terms. Any increase in the amount going to African countries would therefore have to be at the expense of other recipients, probably India and China. However under the present allocation criteria Ethiopia does relatively well compared with other poor African countries and it might be difficult to justify any substantial increase in its share.

7. UNDP also administers several UN special funds from which Ethiopia benefits, in particular the Special Measures Fund for Least Developed Countries, Capital Development Fund, and the Sudano-Sahelian Fund. Figures for their expenditure in Ethiopia are not immediately available. The United Kingdom does not contribute to any of these since it has been our policy to concentrate the limited funds available for UN voluntary contributions on UNDP, and to oppose the establishment of special funds. If we wish to make contributions through the UNDP system, but primarily to the African countries affected by the drought, a contribution to the Sudano-Sahelian Fund would be most appropriate in view of the fact that it is wider in its functions than UNDP and so a contribution would be less in conflict with our policy of centralising TC through UNDP. Other countries with a purist approach, such as Canada, do contribute to this fund.

(d) UNHCR/UNWRA

8. Although the UN refugee relief agencies are no longer covered by this Division, for the sake of completeness I have covered them in the attachment to this minute on the basis of information given to me by the Disaster Unit. As you know responses to special appeals for refugee and humanitarian relief are made ad hoc from the Contingency Reserve.

  
H J Arbuthnott

E/1181.

ETHIOPIA: NON EC MULTILATERAL AID

Multilateral Aid to Ethiopia from Multilateral Aid Agencies

Few figures are available for 1984 and we do not have some for 1983. However, the UK's share of all aid going to Ethiopia is estimated to have been about 11% in 1982. This would have involved about £8 million of UK aid money reaching Ethiopia through multilateral channels in that year, comprising mainly the Community at £4.8 million and IDA at £1.7 million. The percentage figure is likely to be the same for 1983. The sterling figure for that year is probably around £10 million of which £6 million would have gone through the Community.

2. The Community figures were given in the enclosure to Mr Arbuthnott's minute of 30 October to Dr Osborne. It is not possible to break down the UK contributions to Ethiopia made through the IFIs. The following are the figures for the UN agencies concerned:

FAO. In 1983 FAO spent \$0.866 million from its own resources in Ethiopia, of which \$0.048 million is attributable to the United Kingdom.

UNICEF. In 1983 UNICEF spent over \$12.5 million in Ethiopia, of which \$0.625 million is attributable to the United Kingdom.

Under its regular programme UNICEF plans to spend over \$9.2 million on mother and child health programmes in Ethiopia over the next four years. A \$49 million appeal to fund additional mother and child feeding programmes in African countries affected by the drought was launched last July and this included a \$4.5 million programme for Ethiopia to be spent over the next two years. The United Kingdom has contributed £1 million to the special appeal (£250,000 of this has been allocated to Ethiopia by UNICEF).

UNDP. Ethiopia is the fourth largest recipient of UNDP TC for the present cycle, 1982 to 1986. It has been allocated \$61 million for this period. The majority of UNDP projects are in the agricultural, water and health sectors, and are implemented through UN agencies

/such

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UNDP plans on a five-year basis and is mainly concerned with long term development projects. Its scope for responding to emergencies is limited and other UN agencies fulfil this role. However its governing body in June 1984 approved an allocation of \$1.5 million to finance the provision of United Nations volunteers to help with the co-ordination of emergency assistance in drought stricken countries.

The General Assembly in late 1983 decided that most of the unspent residue of a United Nations Special Fund for countries most severely affected by the 1970s oil crisis should be allocated to countries affected by famine and malnutrition, mainly in Africa. These funds, amounting to \$35 million are being administered by UNDP. A £1 million project for Ethiopia has been approved.

#### Other UK Assistance for Ethiopia through UN and Other Organisations

##### UNHCR

3. The planned expenditure from UNHCR for Ethiopia in 1983 was \$11.796 million and in 1984 is now expected to be \$11.988 million. These programmes are for emergency assistance, rural settlement, voluntary repatriation and educational assistance. The amount which could be ascribed to the UK is \$108,851 in 1983 and \$138,000 in 1984. In addition in 1984 we gave £70,000 to UNHCR's special appeal to assist the Sudanese in Ethiopia.

##### International Committee of the Red Cross

4. The expected expenditure in Ethiopia in 1983 was Swiss Francs 16.732 million and in 1984 Swiss Francs 33.64 million. This programme is part of the ICRC's general Africa appeal which includes protection, tracing, medical relief transportation and information assistance. The amount which could be ascribed to the UK is 1983 approximately £240,000 and in 1984 £630,000.

##### Other Agencies

5. We have given humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia in 1984 through

the following agencies:-

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£1.35 million, some of which went to Ethiopia and Disasters Emergency Committee, Famine in Africa, £1 million in 1984, again some of which went to Ethiopia.

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DATE: 30 OCTOBER 1984

cc: PS/Mr Raison  
 Sir Crispin Tickell  
 Mr Browning  
 Mr Freeman (O/R)  
 Mr Murphy  
 Mr Pettitt  
 Mr Frost  
 Miss Cherry  
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 EAD/FCO  
 Mr Crowe,  
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27 NOV 1984

Dr Osborne

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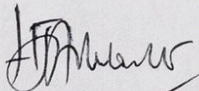
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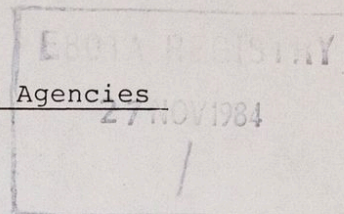
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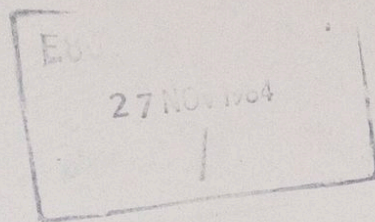
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DATE: 30 October 1984

cc: PS/Mr Raison  
Sir Crispin Tickell  
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EAD/FCO  
Mr Crowe,  
ECD(E)/FCO



Dr Osborne

ETHIOPIA: EC AID: PREPARATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

I attach what I hope is a definitive statement showing the aid given by the EC from early 1983. It has been broken down into aid given up to the end of September 1984; and aid given subsequently as a special response to the present crisis. I will arrange for it to be up-dated and recirculated from time to time to take account of latest developments. This covering minute concentrates on the next steps. You may like to discuss these at the next meeting of the EDG.

2. The Community is in the process of agreeing to an additional 32 MECU of aid (the Budget Committee have agreed. It goes today to the European Parliament) but will need to decide how it should be spent. We have told the Commission (FCO telno 484 to UKREP Brussels) that we shall have firm proposals to make during this week. We shall need to brief UKREP for COREPER on 31 October or 1 November. One possibility (Addis Ababa telno 297) is that EC countries might jointly fund a charter (either from Europe to Ethiopia or for use within Ethiopia) to which HMG could contribute from bilateral funds. In fact, there seems no reason why some of the 32 MECU might not be used to make this a Community charter. TUR suggests a number of ways for possible use of a Community charter.

3. In addition to aircraft, or as an alternative, you might like to consider whether the Community could help with any of the other proposals in Addis Ababa TUR. Could it play a co-ordinating role for Member States' bilateral aid? How might this fit in with the WFP (see para 6 below)? What about ships?

4. We also need to consider what briefing the Secretary of State will need for the Informal Meeting of Foreign Ministers at the week-end.

5. The Committee for Food Aid (CFA), the governing body of the World Food Programme, is at present meeting in Rome. It will be considering an appeal by the Director-General of FAO for additional contributions to the International Emergency Food Reserve (IEFR) to enable WFP to meet anticipated needs between now and the end of 1984. According to the WFP, these needs amount to 384,000 tonnes of cereals plus \$8.3 million for internal transport and handling costs. 46% (177,000 tonnes, \$3.8 million) is for drought-affected people, but none of the figures or the message refer specifically to Ethiopia. The Community is co-ordinating its

/position

position in Rome. Our response to the DG's appeal could be part of a Community response, again using some of the 32 MECU.

6. Our principle objectives at the CFA meeting, now we have secured agreement on the need for an emergency discussion on famine in Africa (particularly Ethiopia; Rome telno 735 to FCO) are:

(a) to secure agreement on the role of the WFP for in-country co-ordination of:

- i. problem assessment;
- ii. monitoring of flows of food aid;
- iii. approaches by donors to Ethiopian Government;

(b) to ascertain plans of other major bilateral and multi-lateral donors for responding to Ethiopian and other African needs.

7. We expect to have today a reply from UKREP Brussels to FCO telno 484; and also in the next day or so from Member States who we asked to provide details of their Governments' bilateral efforts.

H J Arbuthnott

EC AID TO ETHIOPIA 1983 AND 1984

Up to 30 September 1984

1. Food Aid

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1983 Programme | 40,000 t cereals    |
|                | 2,000 t milk powder |
|                | 500 t butteroil     |

Value £7.46 million

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1984 Programme    | 18,000 t cereals    |
| (July allocation) | 1,400 t milk powder |
|                   | 500 t butteroil     |

Value £4.14 million

2. Other Aid

£4.8 million from European Development Fund (EDF) for purchases of locally available food, cost of transport, medicines and other relief material.

Since 30 September 1984

3. Food Aid

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Emergency allocation  | 10,000 t cereals    |
| for free distribution | 350 t milk powder   |
|                       | 200 t butteroil     |
|                       | 250 t vegetable oil |

Value £2.0 million

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Food for work projects | 25,000 t cereals    |
|                        | 500 t vegetable oil |

Value £5.6 million

Total value £24 million, of which UK share £5.1 million

4. Additional amounts of food aid have been provided by multilateral agencies (WFP, UNHCR etc) which receive allocations from the European Community. Commission officials estimate that another 13,000 t cereals have been provided through these channels.

Under Consideration

5. Emergency aid for food and other purposes to a value of 32 MECU (£20 million). Budget Committee meeting 29 October.

In Suspension

6. 3 MECU (£1.8 million) emergency aid from EDF, approved before the proposal for 32 MECU and as a result of that proposal, is being held in reserve. But we are pressing the Commission to make proposals for EDF emergency aid - see FCO telno 484 to UKREP Brussels. We believe that there is a sizeable sum left in the EDF emergency fund.

FROM: MRS J WYETH  
DATE: 30 October 1984

*Phonewas 57/534/01*  
*26/10/84*

Mr Arbuthnott (through Mr Williams)

**FAMINE IN ETHIOPIA**

We discussed yesterday the need to produce a note on the type of question arising from "Why do we not just transport surpluses as food aid?"

2. I attach a list of supplementary questions covering this issue. Some of the information included has been provided previously by MAFF (EC and Cereals Division) for various PQs and MP's letters.

*J. D Wyeth.*  
Mrs J D Wyeth  
European Community Department

30 October 1984

P.S.  
A further point about para 3 is that, although it would not be appropriate to say to the EC subsidises milk powder as an animal feed because it wants to dispose of it cheaply. For this reason I have drawn on the usual arguments about milk powder.

*J. D Wyeth*  
*30/10/84.*  
*Mr. G. Sturck - Please arrange copying - no comments from MAFF on this*  
*Mr. Wyeth*  
Many thanks for this. Please would you let Mr Arbuthnott have a personal copy. It is now seen cleared by LWD(2) & MAFF please also copy to Mr. G. Sturck Unit 9 Information Dept.

*From him*

*Mr. Arbuthnott already has a personal copy.*

## ETHIOPIAN FAMINE

### USE OF FOOD SURPLUSES AS FOOD AID

#### 1. Do food surpluses exist?

The European Community is now more than self-sufficient in several commodities. Intervention stocks exist for cereals, butter, skimmed milk powder and meat. Although the EC is expected to have in excess of 25 million tonnes of wheat this season surplus to immediate domestic requirements the amount actually placed in intervention storage will depend upon the level of exports, which may reach 15-16 million tonnes. Only 3 million tonnes of breadwheat, however will be allowed into intervention this year. Any additional intake will be as feedwheat. As there was a carry over of 3.3 million tonnes of breadwheat in intervention storage from last season there is likely to be 6.3 million tonnes in store at the end of 1984/85.

#### 2. Why not simply give it as food aid?

We consider that only cereals would be suitable for distribution in Ethiopia on a significant scale. Existing and recent commitments of the European Community food aid to Ethiopia (and other developing countries) draw on existing stocks. Most of the food in stock in Europe, including grain grown as animal feed, is unsuitable for large-scale emergency relief, even if it could be transported.

#### 3. Financial implications of transporting surplus grain stocks

Although the grain stocks might be surplus to European Community requirements they would still have to be paid for by governments if they were to be given free to Ethiopia. It could be said that the cost of storing surplus grain (around £20 per tonne) might be used towards transporting it to needy recipients, particularly in Ethiopia. The cost of buying from intervention would however be substantial, amounting to at least <sup>2.5</sup>£150 per tonne (inclusive of transport handling and storage charge)

to destination in Ethiopia. The cost of the food at world prices (which is generally lower than the internal Community price) plus the cost of transport would be charged proportionately to the United Kingdom aid programme. The difference between world market prices and the higher internal EC prices is charged to the Community's agricultural budget. Because the UK share of Community aid expenditure (including food aid) is attributed to the UK aid programme, any increase in EC food aid makes further inroads into the UK bilateral programme. Thus the extra money spent on simply sending these surpluses to Ethiopia would prejudice the provision of more effective forms of aid. Providing food aid as a means of surplus disposal is very expensive and would be equivalent to exporting with an export refund at the level of the full Community price. The cost of the Common Agricultural Policy would rise even further involving a greater burden on Community taxpayers.

4. Why waste grains by storing them?

Intervention stocks remain viable as food products for 10 years.

5. How can the EC subsidise animal feed when people are starving?

The animal feed is not necessarily suitable for emergency food aid. The real answer is to curb the production of costly and wasteful surpluses on the one hand and on the other to ensure that developing countries receive the right kind of aid which provides the greatest long term benefit. Dairy products in particular are of little use in most emergencies and can be harmful unless used under close supervision. Food aid does have a role to play in genuine emergencies and the UK has responded to Ethiopia's needs both bilaterally and through our membership of the Community.

European Community Department  
30 October 1984



*Noted 11/2/84* *J.2 Ostrom* *1180* *742*

# OFFICIAL TEXT *car* *34/x*

Tuesday, October 30th, 1984

UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE, U.S. EMBASSY, 55/56 UPPER BROOK STREET, LONDON W1A 2LH

## U.S. AID TO ETHIOPIA

A Press briefing by

M. Peter McPherson

Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development

Washington, October 25th, 1984

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### MCPHERSON PRESS STATEMENT:

-- THIS IS OF COURSE A GREAT HUMAN TRAGEDY, AND THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN FOLLOWING THE MATTER VERY CLOSELY. OVER THE PAST MONTHS AND YEARS, I'VE GIVEN HIM SEVERAL DIFFERENT REPORTS. MY LATEST REPORT TO HIM WAS THIS MORNING, TELLING HIM WHAT WE HAVE DONE EXACTLY SO FAR THIS YEAR WITH ETHIOPIA. THROUGH ME, HE WISHES TO CONVEY HIS REALLY DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THIS ENORMOUS HUMAN TRAGEDY THAT IS OCCURRING IN ETHIOPIA AND AFRICA THROUGHOUT. HE HAS INSTRUCTED ME AND THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO RESPOND TO THE NEEDS THERE.

-- THE LAST FISCAL YEAR, WE PROVIDED SOME DOLS. 19.8 MILLION OF RESOURCES FOR THE DISASTER, BUT SO FAR THIS FISCAL YEAR, AGAIN ONLY A FEW DAYS OLD, WE PROVIDED DOLS. 43.7 MILLION, OR HAVE OBLIGATED DOLS. 43.7 MILLION OF FOOD AND DISASTER ASSISTANCE. THIS, IN FACT, IS MORE FOR THIS MONTH FOR ETHIOPIA THAN WE PROVIDED FOR ANY COUNTRY THROUGHOUT AFRICA LAST YEAR -- IN SHORT, AN ENORMOUS IMMEDIATE RESPONSE -- BUT IT'S CLEAR THERE'S GOING TO HAVE TO BE A GREAT, GREAT DEAL MORE.

-- NOW, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY PROBLEMS IN WORKING IN ETHIOPIA IN THE LAST YEAR...FIRST OF ALL, THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS ARE IN THE NORTH. THERE IS SOME INDICATION, IN FACT, FURTHER DOWN HERE IN THE SOUTH THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME RAIN IN RECENT TIMES...IT IS THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT ESTIMATE THAT THROUGH

5361

THE PORTS WE CAN DELIVER APPROXIMATELY 50,000 TONS OF FOOD A MONTH. THAT, FRANKLY, MAY NOT BE ENOUGH FOOD TO TAKE CARE OF THE NEED...THE RRC, THE RELIEF AGENCY OF THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT, HAS APPROXIMATELY 300 TRUCKS AT ITS DISPOSAL, WE BELIEVE. BUT THAT PROBABLY ISN'T ENOUGH.

-- ANOTHER PROBLEM, IN ALL CANDIDNESS, HAS BEEN THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT. CERTAINLY, UP UNTIL THE TIME OF THEIR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION A FEW WEEKS AGO, IT SEEMED THAT THEY WERE NOT ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH DONORS AND REALLY TACKLING THIS TREMENDOUS PROBLEM. ESTIMATES ARE THAT THEY MAY HAVE SPENT A COUPLE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS ON THIS TENTH-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, THAT WE WEREN'T ABLE TO GET DATA ON THE NUMBER OF TRUCKS, ON THE PROBLEMS. WE FELT THEY DIDN'T GIVE PRIORITY TO FOOD COMING INTO PORTS. AT ONE TIME, WE HAD CEMENT FROM THE SOVIET UNION TAKE PRIORITY OVER FOOD THAT WE KNEW WE HAD TO GET IN -- A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS.

-- LET ME TALK ABOUT HOW WE'RE TRYING TO TAKE CARE OF THESE DIFFICULTIES. FIRST OF ALL, THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE PROBLEM. BY AN "IMMEDIATE" PROBLEM I MEAN PEOPLE WITHOUT FOOD TODAY. WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN THE LAST FEW DAYS, WE HAVE BEEN PROVIDING GASOLINE, OF REIMBURSEMENT FOR GASOLINE TO ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT CARGO PLANES TO FLY FOOD INTO CERTAIN AREAS...IN ADDITION, WE PROVIDE SOME DOLS. 25,000 FOR THIS. WE'VE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THERE IS ANOTHER DOLS. 75,000 AVAILABLE FOR SUCH FLIGHTS...TO THE EXTENT THERE IS A NEED AND WE CAN RESPOND THIS WAY, WE CERTAINLY ARE GOING TO DO SO...TOMORROW, WE ARE SITTING DOWN WITH SOME OF THE PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS -- WORLD VISION, CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES -- TO TALK WITH THEM ABOUT PLANE SERVICE THAT THEY MIGHT BE OFFERING.

-- IT IS OUR JUDGMENT THAT THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT, SINCE THEIR TENTH-ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, HAS BEEN MUCH MORE FOCUSED ON THIS PROBLEM. IN FACT, COMMISSIONER DAWIT, WHO IS THE HEAD OF THEIR RELIEF AGENCY, THE SO-CALLED RRC, WILL BE IN NEW YORK NEXT WEEK AT THE U.N., AND WE HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO GET TOGETHER WITH HIM TO TALK WITH HIM IN DETAIL ABOUT WHAT ADDITIONAL SUPPORT WE THINK WE CAN PROVIDE AND WHAT WE THINK WE NEED FROM HIM.

-- WE NEED THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT. WE AND THE OTHER DONORS NEED SOME VERY CONCRETE THINGS FROM HIM. WE NEED ADDITIONAL TRUCKS ALLOCATED, NO

DOUBT, FROM THE ETHIOPIAN MILITARY TO THIS EFFORT  
-- SEVERAL HUNDRED TRUCKS. WE ESTIMATED AS MANY  
PERHAPS AS 300 ADDITIONAL TRUCKS NEED TO BE  
ALLOCATED FROM THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT MILITARY TO  
THIS EFFORT.

-- WE THINK THAT SOME TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, SOME  
PORT EXPERTS, IN FACT, MAY BE ABLE TO HELP, AND  
WE'RE ANXIOUS, EITHER OURSELVES OR OTHER PARTIES,  
TO PROVIDE SUCH EXPERTISE. WE THINK, NO DOUBT,  
THAT THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO HAVE TO  
GIVE PRIORITY TO A LARGER AMOUNT OF FOOD WITHIN  
THOSE PORTS TO BRING IT IN. THERE HAS BEEN  
PRIORITY SOMETIMES TO OTHER ITEMS.

-- WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN DEAL  
WITH THE AREAS, THE CIVIL WAR-TORN AREAS, THE  
GUERRILLA-CONTROLLED AREAS. THAT HAS BEEN  
SOMETHING THAT REALLY HAS NEVER BEEN WORKED OUT TO  
EVERYBODY'S SATISFACTION AND WE'VE GOT TO GET THAT  
STRAIGHT. IN SHORT, WE EXPECT EARLY NEXT WEEK TO BE  
SITTING DOWN AND CONCRETELY PRESENTING OUR IDEAS AS  
TO HOW THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT CAN ALLOCATE MORE  
RESOURCES TO ACHIEVE A MORE EFFECTIVE PROGRAM IN  
THAT COUNTRY.

-- IT ALMOST SEEMS LIKE CALLOUS INDIFFERENCE THAT  
THE SOVIET UNION HAS VIRTUALLY DONE NOTHING. IN  
THE LAST YEAR OR SO, ALL WE KNOW THEY'VE DONE IS  
PROVIDE SOME DOLS. 3 MILLION WORTH OF RICE, A  
COMMODITY WHICH ISN'T CONSUMED GENERALLY IN  
ETHIOPIA. DOLS. 3 MILLION. NOW, ETHIOPIA IS  
REALLY VIRTUALLY A SOVIET SATELLITE, AND WE JUST  
DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THE SOVIETS CAN'T RESPOND  
MORE...I WONDER, FOR EXAMPLE, IF THERE ISN'T MORE  
EQUIPMENT THAT THEY COULD HELP TO GET THIS AROUND  
IN, IF THERE ISN'T MORE RESOURCES.

BEGIN Q & A :

-- Q. ARE YOU MAKING ANY APPROACHES TO THE VARIOUS  
AND SUNDRY LIBERATION FRONTS, THE OROMOS OR THE  
TIGRAYANS OR THE ERITREANS, TO SEE TO IT THAT FOOD  
CAN BE BROUGHT INTO AREAS UNDER THEIR CONTROL?

A. WE HAVE HAD DISCUSSIONS -- WE PURSUED GETTING  
THE FOOD INTO THOSE AREAS, AND THOUGH I'D LIKE NOT  
TO COMMENT ON IT EXTENSIVELY TODAY, IT IS CLEAR  
THAT WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO HAVE THE COOPERATION  
OF ALL PARTIES IF WE ARE TO MOVE FREELY.

-- Q. IS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PREPARED FOR  
BILATERAL HELP?

A. OUR INTEREST IS AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM, AND AS INDICATED BY OUR WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE FOR ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT CARGO PLANES.

-- Q. IS THAT A YES?

A. WE ARE GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT THAT. WE MADE IT VERY CLEAR WHAT WE NEED. IT IS NOT A POLITICAL MATTER. IT IS JUST A MATTER WE GOT TO HAVE RESPONSES FROM THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT TO THIS SITUATION. WE HAVE GOT TO HAVE THOSE ADDITIONAL TRUCKS. WE HAVE GOT TO HAVE PEOPLE TRACKING THE FOOD WHEN IT GETS OUT THERE. YOU CAN'T SORT OF JUST DROP IT AND LEAVE IT, AND SO ON. WE OBVIOUSLY ARE INTERESTED. I THINK I HAVE GIVEN MY RESPONSE.

-- Q. CAN YOU SEE THE DAY WHEN AMERICAN PLANES WILL FLY DIRECTLY INTO ETHIOPIA?

A. AT THIS HOUR WE ARE TALKING ABOUT HOW TO USE PLANES THAT ARE THERE, OR THAT WE CAN GET THERE, THAT ARE NOT GOVERNMENT, U.S. GOVERNMENT, PLANES, CERTAINLY, TO TAKE CARE OF THIS PROBLEM.

THE SITUATION IS EVOLVING, BUT I THINK THAT OUR RESPONSE NOW IS THE APPROPRIATE ONE.

-- Q. SOME OF THE FOOD GROUPS HAVE TALKED ABOUT THE NEED FOR U.S. PROVIDING TRUCKS AND SPARE PARTS, AND STUFF LIKE THAT.

A. YOU REMEMBER THAT A YEAR AGO WE PROVIDED MONEY TO THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE TO RENT TRUCKS, AND THAT WORKED FAIRLY WELL, AND WE WOULD EXPECT TO PERHAPS DO EVEN MORE OF THAT, BUT I THINK THAT WHATEVER WE CAN RENT MAY NOT BE SUFFICIENT, AND THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT THAT HAS PERHAPS 6,000 TRUCKS UNDER ITS CONTROL, AND HAS PERHAPS THOUSANDS OF MILITARY TRUCKS, IS THE PRIMARY RESERVOIR OF TRUCKS TO MOVE THIS AROUND.

I THINK YOU CAN SPECULATE A LOT OF "IFS", RETURNING A BIT TO YOUR QUESTION. WE ARE COMMITTED TO AN ENORMOUS RESPONSE HERE. BY ANY MEASURE, -

HISTORIC OR OTHERWISE, DOLS. 43 MILLION IN LESS THAN A MONTH OF OBLIGATIONS, IS AN ENORMOUS FIGURE. IT IS HISTORICAL PROPORTIONS. IT OBVIOUSLY IS A COMMITMENT MADE WITH DEEP INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO RESPOND TO THESE TERRIBLY STRICKEN PEOPLE, AND WE ARE GOING TO PROVIDE -- WE ARE GOING TO RESPOND TO THIS NEED AS BEST WE CAN.

-- Q: WHAT COORDINATION IS THERE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES?

A: THE COORDINATION IS -- THE GATHERER OF THE INFORMATION, IF YOU WILL -- HAS BEEN THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM IN ROME. I HAVE SENT -- COMMUNICATED WITH MY COLLEAGUES -- THE CANADIANS, THE BRITISH, THE FRENCH, AND SO FORTH, -- EITHER DIRECTLY OR BY MY STAFF PERIODICALLY. IN FACT, TODAY, I WILL BE SENDING ANOTHER LETTER, CABLE, TO EACH ONE OF THESE COLLEAGUES SAYING, "HERE IS WHAT WE HAVE DONE. UPDATE ME ON WHAT YOU HAVE DONE."

-- Q: WHAT I AM CURIOUS ABOUT IS, WHEN YOUR FY '84 MONEY RAN OUT, AND WHEN YOU STARTED SPENDING FY '85 MONEY.

A: WE DIDN'T START SPENDING FY '85 MONEY IN ANY FORMAL SENSE UNTIL OCTOBER 1, AND WE BEGAN ANTICIPATING IT A FEW WEEKS IN ADVANCE. THERE WAS NOT A TIME HOWEVER -- WE DID NOT HAVE A PERIOD AT THE END OF '84 AND BEFORE '85 WHEN WE WISHED TO OBLIGATE RESOURCES BUT COULD NOT. IF I SAID THAT CLEARLY ENOUGH. THERE WAS NOT A BREAK WHEN WE DID NOT HAVE RESOURCES WHICH WE LEGALLY HAD THE AUTHORITY TO OBLIGATE.

-- Q: WHAT HAS THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT DONE DIFFERENTLY? YOU SAID THAT BEFORE THE CELEBRATION, YOU HAD PROBLEMS WITH THEM. WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?

A: WELL, THEY HAVE ACTIVELY BEGUN TO GO OUT AND TRY TO TALK TO DONORS AS TO WHAT THEY NEED. THEY HAVE GIVEN US INFORMATION, OR AT LEAST MORE INFORMATION. THIS TRIP OF DAWIT TO NEW YORK, IN MY OPINION, IS INDICATIVE OF MUCH BROADER INTEREST AND FOCUS.

WE THINK THAT THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT IS SIMPLY MORE SERIOUS ABOUT TACKLING THIS PROBLEM. THE RPC ITSELF, AND DAWIT, THE INDIVIDUAL, HAVE BEEN SERIOUS THESE MANY MONTHS, BUT WE HAVEN'T BEEN AT ALL CONVINCED THAT THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT PER SE HAS BEEN, AND WE ARE HOPEFUL.

---

1179.

W/E

1. Mr Rex Browning
2. Sir Crispin Tickell
3. Miss A Andrew

FROM: MR N E HOULT  
DATE: 30 October 1984

ANSWERS TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

Drafts have been placed in the folders attached.

N E Hault  
EWAD  
30 October 1984

PBrn EWA 57/534/01.

*[Handwritten signature]*

2/11/84

Atts.

## ● PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

THE LORD AVEBURY - To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will seek to provide food and medical aid to the areas controlled by the Tigre and Eritrean People's Liberation Fronts as well as to the areas controlled by the Ethiopian military government. [29th October]

## ANSWER

We will continue to distribute mainly through reputable British and international agencies.

No. 149 MR JEREMY CORBIN (Islington North): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what plans he is making to ensure that emergency food aid gets through to the people of Tigray province in Ethiopia.

ANSWER

We will continue to arrange distribution mainly through reputable British and international agencies.

## PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

No. 56 MR ROBERT N. WAREING (Liverpool, West Derby): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, if he will take action, unilaterally if necessary, to commandeer surplus stores of grain in British warehouses for the purpose of aiding famine victims in Ethiopia; and if he will make a statement.

## ANSWER

No. I refer the Hon. Member to the statement I made in the House on 30 October

## PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

MR DENNIS CANAVAN (Falkirk West): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how many representations he has received about the famine in Ethiopia; and what further measures he will take to help.

## ANSWER

Several hundred letters have been received from members of the public. I refer the Hon. Member to my statement in the House this afternoon about the measures we are taking.

## PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

No. 59 MR ROBERT N. WAREING (Liverpool, West Derby): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how many requests he has received for aid from voluntary organisations for the victims of famine in Ethiopia; when the first request was made; what his response was; and if he will make a statement.

## ANSWER

This information is not readily available. I refer the Hon. Member to my statement on 30 October.

Reference .....

1178

WIE

~~Mr McCulloch~~

~~Dashyn~~

~~and 31/10~~

Request was brought forward.

Comments given to Dip Wing over phone. They will show us draft.

Sho  
30/10

~~Mr Hault~~

PB on 57/534/01

Sho

1/11

Planning Staff to coordinate pse.

Mr Brammer

670  
E/1178



10 DOWNING STREET

RECEIVED IN  
PRIVATE OFFICE  
29 OCT 1984  
26 October 1984  
ACD

CLBudd  
29/10

pse speak.

4113  
PS Mr. Raison  
Mr Fairweather EOX(1)  
Mr Crowe EOX(E)  
Mr Bloomfield Soviet  
Mr Pakenham ACDD  
Mr Galsworthy HKD  
Mr Palmer FID  
From the Private Secretary  
Mr Neilson SED  
Mrs Coll WCAD  
Mr Long NEWAD  
Mr Burton SCW  
Dear Colin,

Mr Wabau-Smith, EAD  
Mr Alsop, DEFENCE

1. Mr Minister  
Sir Cyprian Rickell  
Mr Downing  
Mr Tim Frow  
2. Mr Freeman

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS: FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND DEFENCE

Tim Flesher's letter of 25 October to Len Appleyard commissioned draft speaking notes on a number of points for the Prime Minister's opening speech in the debate on the address.

We have now refined our requirements rather more closely and propose that the foreign affairs section of the speech should focus on the following subjects:

- (i) The prospects for East/West relations (including the possible announcement of Gorbachev's visit).
- (ii) The European Community, concentrating on our achievement in settling all the outstanding budgetary issues (assuming, that is, that budgetary discipline is finalised by then).
- X (iii) Ethiopia and what the Government is doing bilaterally and through the European Community.
- (iv) Hong Kong.
- (v) A well argued and vigorous passage attacking the unilateralism of the Opposition in defence, developing the line which the Prime Minister used in her Party Conference speech.

It would be very helpful if the Planning Staff could produce material in speech form covering these main themes (and others if you feel strongly that this should be added) by Wednesday evening next week if possible. They will no doubt want to consult closely with the MOD on the last point.

I am copying this letter to Richard Mottram in the Ministry of Defence.

Yours sincerely,  
  
(Charles Powell)

Colin Budd Esq  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office



1. Copy to Dr. Osborne  
Mr Cherry } ODA  
PI copy WIE  
Letter Pack  
2/14

1177 157

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION : LONDON  
AUSTRALIA HOUSE STRAND WC2B 4LA TEL. 01-438 8000

2 R Ope.

13 then re. Unhildt  
see  
1/14  
30/10

Please quote in reply

Branch: Political

Our Ref: 840/3/15

Direct enquiry 01-438 8200

30 October 1984

Mr W N Wenban-Smith  
Head  
East African Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
Room K322A  
Downing Street  
LONDON SW1A 2AL

Mr Wyatt

for 57/534/01  
W. M.  
2/11/84

Dear Mr. Wenban-Smith,

.... I enclose a copy of a press statement by the Australian Foreign Minister, Mr Hayden, on 30 October concerning emergency aid for Ethiopia.

Your assistance in keeping us informed over the last few days of British plans for relief assistance to Ethiopia has been much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Jeffrey Benson

(J.A. Benson)  
Minister

E/1177

U N C L A S S I F I E D

ETHIOPIA

THE FOLLOWING RELEASE WAS ISSUED IN CANBERRA TODAY:  
AUSTRALIA TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY AID PACKAGE TO ETHIOPIA

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR BILL HAYDEN M.P., HAS ANNOUNCED A 65 PER CENT INCREASE IN AUSTRALIA'S AID TO ETHIOPIA, LIFTING IT BY DLRS 4,250,000 TO DLRS 10,750,000. MR HAYDEN ALSO SAID THAT AUSTRALIA IS TAKING DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES TO SPEED UP THE CO-ORDINATED RELIEF EFFORT BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

ADDITIONALLY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY PROVIDED DLRS 2 MILLION FOR NON-GOVERNMENT AID AGENCIES AND THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME IN ETHIOPIA AND ERITERA.

MR HAYDEN SUMMARISED THE AID PACKAGE AS:

THE GOVERNMENT WILL ADD DLRS 4,250,000 IN AID TO THE DLRS 6,500,000 ANNOUNCED ON 26 OCTOBER AS AID IN 1984/85.

.../2

INWARD

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION

INWARD CABLEGRAM

2-0.CH236321

. THE MAIN COMPONENT IN THE TOTAL PACKAGE OF DLRS 10,750,000 WILL BE A PLEDGE OF 25,000 TONNES OF WHEAT.

. THE COST OF THE WHEAT, ITS FREIGHT AND OF INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION COSTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS WHICH WILL HANDLE 5,000 TONNES OF IT IS ESTIMATED TO BE DLRS 6,475,000. THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM WILL BE ASKED TO HANDLE 20,000 TONNES.

. ANOTHER FOOD COMPONENT CONSISTS OF 120 TONNES OF HIGH PROTEIN BISCUITS, OF WHICH 100 TONNES HAVE JUST ARRIVED IN ETHIOPIA AND 20 TONNES WILL BE AIRFREIGHTED TO UNICEF. THE TOTAL VALUE IS DLRS 390,000.

. THE GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE CASH GRANTS TOTALLING DLRS 1,225,000 TO AUSTRALIAN APPEALS, NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) FOR USE IN ETHIOPIA. THE GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT THE PUBLIC WILL FOLLOW ITS LEAD IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE APPEAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER EMERGENCIES COMMITTEE TO WHICH IT WILL GIVE DLRS 500,000.

. THE GOVERNMENT OFFERS TO PAY FOR A MEDICAL TEAM, POSSIBLY FROM RED CROSS, TO WORK IN ETHIOPIA FOR SIX MONTHS AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF DLRS 200,000.

. THE GOVERNMENT ALSO OFFERS TO PAY FOR A QANTAS BOEING 747 TO FLY IN THE HIGH PROTEIN BISCUITS, THE MEDICAL TEAM, MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND OTHER EMERGENCY RELIEF ITEMS TO BE CONSIGNED TO UNICEF AND TO THE ICRC. IT WILL CONSIDER OTHER FLIGHTS OR HELP WITH SEA-FREIGHT COSTS IF AUSTRALIAN COMPANIES AND ORGANISATIONS WISH TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE OFFER. THE COST OF EACH FLIGHT IS AROUND DLRS 300,000 AND EXPENDITURE ON THE MEDICINES AND OTHER EMERGENCY ITEMS WOULD BE AROUND DLRS 500,000.

MR HAYDEN SAID HE HAS SENT A MESSAGE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF ETHIOPIA EXPRESSING THE GOVERNMENT'S DEEP CONCERN AT THE PLIGHT OF ETHIOPIA'S STARVING PEOPLE, AND PLEDGING AUSTRALIA'S ASSISTANCE.

MR HAYDEN HAS ALSO SENT A MESSAGE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE HEADS OF UN RELIEF ORGANISATIONS, CALLING FOR A UN LEAD, FOR CO-ORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL RELIEF. AUSTRALIA'S DELEGATES TO MEETINGS OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND UNICEF THIS WEEK ARE BEING INSTRUCTED ALSO TO PRESS FOR INTERNATIONAL RESPONSES AND CO-ORDINATION.

AUSTRALIA HAS SENT TO ETHIOPIA AN OFFICIAL FROM ITS HIGH COMMISSION IN NAIROBI TO ASSIST AUSTRALIA'S OVERALL RELIEF EFFORT AND TO REPORT DEVELOPMENTS. THE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED SOME MONTHS AGO TO OPEN A PERMANENT MISSION IN ETHIOPIA EARLY NEXT YEAR. IT HAS NOW BROUGHT THIS FORWARD TO EARLY DECEMBER.

.../3

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION

INWARD CABLEGRAM

3-O.CH236321

MR HAYDEN SAID THAT THE TASK FORCE HE HAD ESTABLISHED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, INCLUDING THE AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE BUREAU, WOULD CONTINUE TO DISCUSS WITH AUSTRALIAN COMPANIES AND ORGANISATIONS PLANS FOR HELP WITH THEIR ASSISTANCE EFFORTS.

MR HAYDEN SAID THAT IT HAD TO BE BORNE IN MIND THAT FAMINE WAS DEVASTATING MOZAMBIQUE, PROBABLY AS BADLY AS IN ETHIOPIA AND THAT THERE ARE TWENTY-FOUR AFRICAN COUNTRIES LISTED BY THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME AS COUNTRIES WITH SERIOUS FOOD SHORTAGE PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF FAMINE AND OTHER REASONS.

THERE ARE ALSO SOME SERIOUS FAMINE PROBLEMS IN OUR OWN REGION TO WHICH WE HAVE TO RESPOND.

AUSTRALIA PROVIDED MORE THAN DLRS 44 MILLION OF BILATERAL FOOD AID IN AFRICA LAST YEAR.

IF FOOD AID THROUGH INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES PROVIDED FOR DISTRIBUTION IN AFRICA BY AUSTRALIA IS ADDED, THE TOTAL OF FOOD AID PROVIDED IN AFRICA BY THIS COUNTRY IS MUCH LARGER.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED DLRS 112 MILLION IN FOOD AID IN THIS YEAR'S BUDGET AND THE BULK OF THAT IS EXPECTED TO GO TO AFRICA.

Reference .....

1176

WJE

FROM: J A L Faint

DATE: 30 October 1984

cc. Mr Pennock  
✓ Mr Holt  
Miss Cherry

Mr Browning

You asked on the telephone for some guidance for Mr Buist about funding local agencies in Ethiopia in connection with the famine. I attach a draft contribution to a telegram to Mr Buist, which I hope is self-explanatory.

*J A L Faint*

J A L Faint

BBW EWA 57/584/01

*WJE*

2/11/84

## FAMINE IN ETHIOPIA: ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL AGENCIES

Draft section for telegram to Mr Buist

You ask about the accounting requirements for contributions to local voluntary agencies. We assume this would include non-British agencies (eg European or American) with organisations in Ethiopia, as well as purely local Ethiopian agencies.

2. We do not normally provide grants to non-UK voluntary agencies, and even where we do it is greatly preferable to work with organisations that have a UK office (eg the Red Cross).

3. There are two possible types of arrangement:

- (i) A grant in aid. This provides general budgetary support to an agency for its activities across the board;
- (ii) An accountable grant: here we have to identify a particular activity which will be exclusively supported by ODA.

4. Grants in aid are shown in subhead G2 of the Estimates. A new one would require a CF advance and an arranged PQ to inform Parliament in advance of a Supplementary Estimate. Financial and other details about the organisation would be required. Funding would normally be quarterly in advance on the basis of evidence of the organisation's financial need, and expenditure would be discharged by the provision of annual audited accounts.

5. Accountable grants are shown in subhead G1(3). A CF advance and arranged PQ would not be necessary. Funding would again normally be quarterly, on the basis of an estimate of the requirement for the specified activity in the coming quarter, and an account of last quarter's expenditure. Accounting requirements can be met either by annual audited statements of the specific activity being funded, or by full annual audited accounts of the organisation.

6. It seems unlikely that a strictly Ethiopian agency would be able to meet the accounting requirements. Amounts not discharged by audited statements or accounts would eventually have to be written off in the appropriation account. Where local agencies clearly cannot meet accounting requirements, an alternative approach could be for the Embassy to purchase the necessary equipment/supplies and donate them. Some follow-up monitoring is necessary, and such arrangements would be subject to the Embassy's administrative constraints.

Reference ..... 1175

FROM: H J ARBUTHNOTT W/E

DATE: 30 October 1984

cc: PS/Mr Raison  
Sir Crispin Tickell  
Mr Browning  
Mr Freeman (O/R)  
Mr Murphy  
Mr Pettitt  
Mr Frost  
Mr Wenban-Smith,  
EAD/FCO  
Mr Crowe,  
ECD(E)/FCO

1181 Refs.

For EWA 57/534/01

1/11/84

Dr Osborne

ETHIOPIA: EC AID: PREPARATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

I attach what I hope is a definitive statement showing the aid given by the EC from early 1983. It has been broken down into aid given up to the end of September 1984; and aid given subsequently as a special response to the present crisis. I will arrange for it to be up-dated and recirculated from time to time to take account of latest developments. This covering minute concentrates on the next steps. You may like to discuss these at the next meeting of the EDG.

1091a  
1081  
2. The Community is in the process of agreeing to an additional 32 MECU of aid (the Budget Committee have agreed. It goes today to the European Parliament) but will need to decide how it should be spent. We have told the Commission (FCO telno 484 to UKREP Brussels) that we shall have firm proposals to make during this week. We shall need to brief UKREP for COREPER on 31 October or 1 November. One possibility (Addis Ababa telno 297) is that EC countries might jointly fund a charter (either from Europe to Ethiopia or for use within Ethiopia) to which HMG could contribute from bilateral funds. In fact, there seems no reason why some of the 32 MECU might not be used to make this a Community charter. TUR suggests a number of ways for possible use of a Community charter.

3. In addition to aircraft, or as an alternative, you might like to consider whether the Community could help with any of the other proposals in Addis Ababa TUR. Could it play a co-ordinating role for Member States' bilateral aid? How might this fit in with the WFP (see para 6 below)? What about ships?

4. We also need to consider what briefing the Secretary of State will need for the Informal Meeting of Foreign Ministers at the week-end.

5. The Committee for Food Aid (CFA), the governing body of the World Food Programme, is at present meeting in Rome. It will be considering an appeal by the Director-General of FAO for additional contributions to the International Emergency Food Reserve (IEFR) to enable WFP to meet anticipated needs between now and the end of 1984. According to the WFP, these needs amount to 384,000 tonnes of cereals plus \$8.3 million for internal transport and handling costs. 46% (177,000 tonnes, \$3.8 million) is for drought-affected people, but none of the figures or the message refer specifically to Ethiopia. The Community is co-ordinating its

(position

position in Rome. Our response to the DG's appeal could be part of a Community response, again using some of the 32 MECU.

6. Our principle objectives at the CFA meeting, now we have secured agreement on the need for an emergency discussion on famine in Africa (particularly Ethiopia; Rome telno 735 to FCO) are:

(a) to secure agreement on the role of the WFP for in-country co-ordination of:

- i. problem assessment;
- ii. monitoring of flows of food aid;
- iii. approaches by donors to Ethiopian Government;

(b) to ascertain plans of other major bilateral and multi-lateral donors for responding to Ethiopian and other African needs.

7. We expect to have today a reply from UKREP Brussels to FCO telno 484; and also in the next day or so from Member States who we asked to provide details of their Governments' bilateral efforts.

H J Arbuthnott

## E AID TO ETHIOPIA 1983 AND 1984

Up to 30 September 19841. Food Aid

1983 Programme                      40,000 t cereals  
                                         2,000 t milk powder  
                                         500 t butteroil

Value £7.46 million

1984 Programme                      18,000 t cereals  
(July allocation)                      1,400 t milk powder  
                                         500 t butteroil

Value £4.14 million

2. Other Aid

£4.8 million from European Development Fund (EDF) for purchases of locally available food, cost of transport, medicines and other relief material..

Since 30 September 19843. Food Aid

Emergency allocation                10,000 t cereals  
for free distribution                350 t milk powder  
                                         200 t butteroil  
                                         250 t vegetable oil

Value £2.0 million

Food for work projects               25,000 t cereals  
                                         500 t vegetable oil

Value £5.6 million

Total value £24 million, of which UK share £5.1 million

4. Additional amounts of food aid have been provided by multilateral agencies (WFP, UNHCR etc) which receive allocations from the European Community. Commission officials estimate that another 13,000 t cereals have been provided through these channels.

Under Consideration

5. Emergency aid for food and other purposes to a value of 32 MECU (£20 million). Budget Committee meeting 29 October.

In Suspension

6. 3 MECU (£1.8 million) emergency aid from EDF, approved before the proposal for 32 MECU and as a result of that proposal, is being held in reserve. But we are pressing the Commission to make proposals for EDF emergency aid - see FCO telno 484 to UKREP Brussels. We believe that there is a sizeable sum left in the EDF emergency fund.

30/10 1174.

PBm 57/534/21

2/11/81

STATEMENT BY THE RT HON TIMOTHY RAISON MP, MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON FAMINE RELIEF FOR ETHIOPIA

The House knows of the very deep concern felt throughout the country at the effects of famine in Ethiopia - and indeed in other countries. Last Wednesday my rt hon and learned Friend the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs announced three important further measures designed to help tackle the problem. These follow the substantial steps that we and the European Community were already taking, almost £10 million from the British aid programme in the last eighteen months, including our share of over £22 million from the European Community.

The new measures were : first, the despatch by the UK of a further 6,000 tonnes of food aid; second, the allocation of a further £5 million for spending on famine relief in Ethiopia and other African countries; and third a pledge to press the European Community for additional action.

The House will wish me to report on the action we have put in hand.

On Saturday night, my noble Friend the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence, Lord Trefgarne, and I met in London Commissioner Dawit, Head of the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission.

I informed him of the additional 6,000 tonnes of grain, which will be shipped within the next few days. We discussed ways of speeding up the transport and distribution of supplies through the port. I agreed that we should draw on our £5 million offer to provide dump trucks to help with unloading at the port of Assab and Landrovers and spare parts for them to help with distribution. I also agreed to supply water drilling rigs and medical requirements.

/In addition,

In addition, we told him of our offer of a Royal Air Force detachment of two Hercules and the appropriate support to undertake internal relief operations within the famine areas. There was some discussion about this offer, but I can tell the House that it has been agreed that we will make the detachment available for three months. The initial deployment will involve several additional flights to Ethiopia to ensure that our detachment is self-sufficient and fully equipped for the task. So far as we are concerned the first two aircraft are ready to leave tomorrow. Two RAF officers have now arrived in Addis Ababa to discuss urgently the practical arrangements.

I am sure these aircraft will make a very valuable contribution to distributing food to where it is most needed.

I have also agreed to make available two further civil aircraft - one of them a Hercules - to support the voluntary agencies who are doing such a fine job in Ethiopia. Both will take out relief supplies and the Hercules will stay in Ethiopia for some weeks for use by the International Committee of the Red Cross. We are also paying for some of the supplies needed. I had this morning a constructive discussion of priorities and implementation with the Disasters Emergency Committee led by Lord Hunt.

All this represents a very significant British contribution. In addition, the European Community is taking valuable action.

So far this year the European Community has already made direct allocations of 53,000 tonnes of cereals and 3,000 tonnes of other products to Ethiopia. But the needs of Ethiopia are so great that we have pressed the Community to do more. Following my rt hon Friend the Prime Minister's message to Dr Fitzgerald, President of the European Council, the Council's Budget Committee has approved and the European Parliament is to consider today a special programme of food and transport assistance worth £20 million, of which the British share would be about £4.5 million.

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The needs of Ethiopia and other parts of drought-stricken Africa will be further discussed by Community Foreign Ministers in Ireland at the end of the week and by the Development Council - which I shall attend - in Brussels next Tuesday.

We have been active in other international organisations. The Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA), the supervisory body of the World Food Programme, is currently meeting in Rome. On a British initiative the meeting is giving priority to the needs of Ethiopia.

At the same time, other Western donors have offered increased assistance.

The grave problem of drought in Ethiopia and other parts of Africa cannot be solved overnight or by one massive airlift. But the measures we have announced are valuable in themselves and have given an important lead.

Mines

My Lords, with your Lordships' permission, I shall now repeat a Statement now being given in another place by my Rt hon friend, the Minister for Overseas Development about famine relief in Ethiopia.

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Pbm EWA 57/534/01

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2/11/84

## SUPPLEMENTARIES

### FAMINE IN ETHIOPIA

#### Why has famine taken place

Drought is affecting a large part of Africa. Difficult terrain in Ethiopia, poverty, a civil war, increasing population and a collectivised system of agriculture have all compounded the problem.

#### What Britain has done/Britain withheld aid to bring down Marxist Government

Contrary to misleading reports in the press, we have helped Ethiopia for many years. It is true that we have only a very limited development programme in recent years because of the difficulties of working in Ethiopia. However from 1973 to 1981 British aid averaged over £2m a year rising in 1982 to £5.6m, of which most (£5.2m) was given as food aid in response to the effects of drought in its early stages. Over past two years, British aid to Ethiopia has been worth more than £13m including our share of European Community support. We are not making a belated response to the drought - we have done much already. This July, we cancelled Ethiopia's aid debts to Britain worth more than £2.5m.

#### What we are doing now

6,000 tonnes more food. Extra assistance worth best part of £5m was discussed by Commissioner Dawit, head of Ethiopia's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission with the Minister for Overseas Development in London on Saturday. We are providing trucks and spares to help unloading in the Port of Assab and landrovers to facilitate distribution of supplies. We are sending relief and medical supplies and drilling rigs for wells. In addition, we are sending aircraft to help transport food and other relief supplies within Ethiopia.

#### Grain shipments

Food shipments from Britain are arriving. 14,000 tonnes reached Assab yesterday (9,000 supplied by Oxfam, 1,000 by send-a-tonne-for-Africa and 4,000 by HMG). The main problem is internal distribution. We do not wish to choke existing port facilities which are under heavy strain.

#### Problems of relocating population

This is a potentially very sensitive matter.

Is aid diverted to army by Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission?

Commission operates with donors and relief agencies, who discount allegations that supplies have been diverted to armed forces.

What are the Soviet Union and its allies doing?

The Soviet Union is reported to have agreed to provide 10,000 tonnes rice. There are press reports that the massive response in the West has at last prompted the Soviet Union and its allies into doing more.

Whisky imports to Ethiopia

Lavish expenditure (some estimates at £200 million) on Tenth Anniversary celebrations of Ethiopia's Socialist Revolution

It is for the Ethiopian Government to explain these things. It is no secret that we do not always agree with them - they claim to be Marxist - but millions of people are starving and we must try to help if we can.

Relations with rebels

British Government wants to help provide food and relief to all in need both through the Government of Ethiopia and the voluntary agencies.

Aid for areas controlled by Tigray/Eritrean rebels, which are among worst hit

We will be providing resources through the voluntary agencies.

Are the Ethiopians at all grateful?

The Ethiopian Foreign Minister has formally conveyed to our Ambassador his Government's appreciation of the British response in the warmest terms. [If pressed] He has assured us that impressions given to the contrary do not represent the Ethiopian Government's view.

#### Support through Non Governmental Organisations

Our Ambassador sends us reports on their work. We appreciate their magnificent efforts. HMG is sending planes with supplies for the agencies: one will leave on Thursday (1 November). Another will leave next week and will be placed at the disposal of the International Committee for the Red Cross (for one month) to distribute relief supplies in Ethiopia.

#### What the Community is doing

Following British initiative the Budget Committee of the Council of Ministers approved on 29 October a £20m programme for food and transport assistance to Ethiopia. This is being considered by the European Parliament today. Following my message to him Dr Fitzgerald, in the Presidency, has given Ethiopia priority on the agenda for the formal meeting of Foreign Ministers in Ireland at the end of this week and the subject will be further discussed when development Ministers meet on 6 November.

#### Needs of other countries

Famine not restricted to Ethiopia alone. We are trying to help combat affects of drought in other parts of Africa. We agreed last week to £250,000 for famine relief in Chad (through the Red Cross) and support for relief assistance by voluntary agencies in Sudan. We have also committed substantial sums to relief elsewhere in Africa this year.

#### Coordinating efforts

Representatives of donor governments and voluntary agencies meet with the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission in Addis Ababa to coordinate their efforts.

#### Outcome of negotiations for the replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development

The International Fund for Agricultural Development is a long term development agency and not a disaster relief organisation. The negotiations for the further replenishment of its funds are proving difficult and protracted; but another meeting has been arranged for 6-7 December, and it is to be hoped that this will lead to a favourable conclusion.

Why have we not helped more in the past

In the early 1970s we had a significant development programme designed to develop agriculture in the areas now suffering from drought. By 1976 conditions there forced us to abandon the programme. Our development aid in Ethiopia since has been small.

What are we going to do in the longer term

Drought and famine are likely to continue and we shall do our best to help. Whether we re-establish a development aid programme will need careful consideration. It may be more appropriate for the international agencies to take the lead.

Result of WFP meeting

This is still in progress. Western donors have announced or confirmed pledges (such as that made by my Rt Hon Friend in another place last week). They total about 100,000 tonnes and \$22 million.

In addition to the emergency aid we have already announced, we have offered the services of a grain storage expert and this has been welcomed by WFP.

Vital that relief properly coordinated and WFP will do this with the assistance of UNICEF and UNDRO (United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation).

RAF Hercules

The Ethiopian Government has accepted our offer of two Hercules for three months. The aircraft will be able to move food and convey humanitarian supplies from storage places to areas where they are most needed. It is the effective contribution of available supplies that in the short-term can do most to alleviate suffering.

Why only two Hercules

RAF transport fleet is already fully stretched. Support of our detachment in Ethiopia will itself make substantial further demands on our transport resources.

Hercules to stay longer than three months

Assistance beyond three months a matter for mutual agreement of HMG and Ethiopian Government.

What can Hercules do

Precise role will depend on circumstances in Ethiopia. That is why RAF experts have been despatched.

Can Hercules air drop supplies

Yes; and with grain they can use a free-fall technique that does not need parachutes. In the right circumstances this can be an effective way of getting food quickly to where it is needed.

When will they go

So far as we are concerned the first two aircraft can leave tomorrow.

## ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA

After consultation with our Ambassador, we expect to provide the following items:

|                                                                              | £m            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Food aid, 6000 tonnes, including shipping                                 | 0.93          |
| 2. Internal transport for above                                              | 0.75          |
| 3. Shipment 2000 tonnes food aid to rebel areas<br>(no publicity)            | 0.14          |
| 4. Ten dumper trucks and spares, Assab Port                                  | 0.35          |
| 5. Hercules for use by Red Cross, four weeks                                 | 0.5           |
| 6. Drilling rigs for Save the Children Fund (SCF)                            | 0.13          |
| 7. Landrovers for Red Cross, SCF, Cafod<br>and aid administration            | 0.1           |
| 8. Spare parts for Relief and Rehabilitation Commission                      | 0.1           |
| 9. Ten new Landrovers for RRC                                                | 0.2           |
| 10. Drugs, biscuits, medicines, refrigerators for<br>vaccines, marques (SCF) | 0.2           |
| 11. Seeds Oxfam                                                              | 0.2           |
| 12. Equipment to be transported for Disasters Emergency<br>Committee         | 0.1           |
| 13. Consultants, advisers, mechanical engineers, etc.                        | 0.2           |
|                                                                              | <hr/>         |
| Sub-total:                                                                   | 4.0 (approx.) |
|                                                                              | <hr/>         |

In addition, we expect attribution to ODA of European Community food aid of £4.5m.

As a separate exercise, MOD are providing two RAF Hercules.



OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION  
ELAND HOUSE  
STAG PLACE LONDON SW1E 5DH  
Telephone 01-213 5409

Mr. H. H. H. 1173.  
W/E  
57/534/01  
EWAS  
for  
for  
for  
for

From the Minister

30 October 1984

T J Flesher Esq  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON SW1

Dear Tim,

STATEMENT ON ETHIOPIA

I understand that the Prime Minister has now agreed that Mr Raison should make a statement to the House today provided, as I said in my letter last night, that we get adequate confirmation from our Embassy in Addis Ababa that we are at one with the Ethiopians on the scope of the offer of two MOD Hercules. Accordingly, I attach a copy of Mr Raison's draft statement.

Copies of this letter go to the Private Secretaries to the Leader of the House, the Chief Whip House of Commons, the Chief Whip House of Lords, the Chief Press Secretary, the Secretary to the Cabinet, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence (Lord Trefgarne) and the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

Sincerely,  
Michael McCulloch

(Michael C McCulloch)  
Private Secretary

I now received. Mr. H.

E/1173.

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The measures were : first, the despatch by the UK of a further 6,000 tonnes of food aid; second, the allocation of a further £5 million for spending on famine relief in Ethiopia and other African countries; and third a promise to press the European Community for additional action.

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I also agreed to supply water drilling rigs and medical requirements.

In addition, we told him of our offer of two RAF Hercules to take out relief supplies and then help with transport in the country. There was some discussion about this offer, but I can tell the House that it has now been agreed that we will make the two aircraft available for at least three months. The aircraft will require an appreciable back-up team - including other aircraft - if they are to be effective in distributing supplies. Two RAF officers have now arrived in Addis Ababa to discuss urgently the practical arrangements.

I have no doubt these aircraft will make an important contribution.

At the same time I have agreed to make available two aeroplanes to support the voluntary agencies who are doing such a fine job in Ethiopia. Both will take out relief supplies and one will stay in Ethiopia for some weeks for use by the ICRC. We are also paying for some of the supplies needed.

All this represents a very significant British contribution. In addition, the European Community is taking valuable action.

So far this year the European Community has already made direct allocations of 53,000 tonnes of cereals and 3,000 tonnes of other products to Ethiopia. But the needs of Ethiopia are so great that we have pressed the Community to do more. Following my right hon Friend the Prime Minister's message to Dr Fitzgerald, President of the European Council, the Council's Budget Committee has approved and the European Parliament is to consider today a special programme of food and transport systems worth £20 million, of which the British share would be about £4.5 million.

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The grave problem of drought in Ethiopia and other parts of Africa cannot be solved overnight or by one massive airlift. But the measures we have announced are valuable in themselves and have given an important lead; and we shall continue to play our full part.

4210

1172

W/E



10 DOWNING STREET

With the compliments of

ODA ✓ For 57/534/01  
hps  
1/11/14  
30/10



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

*D. Osborne* 1172  
ODA  
KPS  
Mr. Harte  
for files

30 October 1984

*Y  
Com Emence,*

1077

Thank you for the letter which you, together with the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Moderator of the Free Church, sent on 25 October about Ethiopia. As you know, Her Majesty's Government and the nation as a whole share your concern about the human disaster in that country.

During the last two years, we have given substantial help to the Government and people of Ethiopia in their fight against famine. This includes bilateral food aid and disaster relief, and food aid and emergency financial assistance from the European Community. The total cost to the British aid programme in the past two years is nearly £13 million (£7.8 million through the Community, £3.7 million bilateral food aid, £1.2 million disaster relief). Much of our aid, both bilateral and through the Community, has been given in close cooperation with voluntary agencies whose efforts have been magnificent. We have already increased this substantially by a further 6,000 tonnes of grain and £5 million for Ethiopia (and other drought-stricken countries in Africa). In addition we have offered the use of Hercules aircraft and two RAF officers have left for Addis Ababa to look into the practical arrangements.

I have also been in touch with Dr. FitzGerald to urge on him the need for further action by the European Community, and active consideration is being given in Brussels to an emergency programme of some £20 million of which the British

share is some £4.5 million for food and transport. We are also proposing an emergency debate at the World Food Programme meeting which has just started in Rome, with emphasis on WFP's coordinating and monitoring role.

I can assure you that the Government are treating this calamity with the utmost seriousness and urgency. But we must also keep in mind other possible calls on our help from countries suffering no less gravely.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

His Eminence The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster



Eii/1172

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

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---

The Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council



Ethi/1172

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My dear Archbishop,

1077 Thank you for the letter which you, together with the Cardinal Archbishop and the Moderator of the Free Church, sent on 25 October about Ethiopia. As you know, Her Majesty's Government and the nation as a whole share your concern about the human disaster in that country.

During the last two years, we have given substantial help to the Government and people of Ethiopia in their fight against famine. This includes bilateral food aid and disaster relief, and food aid and emergency financial assistance from the European Community. The total cost to the British aid programme in the past two years is nearly £13 million (£7.8 million through the Community, £3.7 million bilateral food aid, £1.2 million disaster relief). Much of our aid, both bilateral and through the Community, has been given in close cooperation with voluntary agencies whose efforts have been magnificent. We have already increased this substantially by a further 6,000 tonnes of grain and £5 million for Ethiopia (and other drought-stricken countries in Africa). In addition we have offered the use of Hercules aircraft and two RAF officers have left for Addis Ababa to look into the practical arrangements.

I have also been in touch with Dr. FitzGerald to urge on him the need for further action by the European Community, and active consideration is being given in Brussels to an emergency programme of some £20 million of which the British

share is some £4.5 million for food and transport. We are also proposing an emergency debate at the World Food Programme meeting which has just started in Rome, with emphasis on WFP's coordinating and monitoring role.

I can assure you that the Government are treating this calamity with the utmost seriousness and urgency. But we must also keep in mind other possible calls on our help from countries suffering no less gravely.

Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher

---

His Grace The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury

1171 177  
W/E



*With the compliments of*  
**EAST AFRICAN DEPARTMENT**

**FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE,  
LONDON, SW1A 2AH**

GR 270

UNCLASSIFIED

FM ADDIS ABABA 301050Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE DOE LONDON

TELEGRAM NUMBER DOELB 002 OF 30 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE FCO (FOR EAD), ODA (FOR EWAD AND DISASTER UNIT)

FOR HAZELTON 1A/1E.

YOUR TELNO DOEMS 007: BRITISH AIRLINE RELIEF FLIGHTS TO ETHIOPIA.

1. EAST AFRICAN DEPT, FCO, CAN TELL YOU THE NUMEROUS PROBLEMS WE ARE TRYING TO COPE WITH OVER THE BA FLIGHT ORGANISED BY MR MAXWELL (DAILY MIRROR) DUE AT ADDIS ABABA ON 4 NOVEMBER.

2. WE KNOW OF NO OTHER BRITISH CIVILIAN FLIGHTS, APART FROM A TRADE WINDS 707 (ORGANISED BY MR ROWLAND OF LONHRO) WHICH ARRIVED TODAY. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ANY OTHER AIRLINES PLANNING TO SEND AIRCRAFT WITH RELIEF SUPPLIES TO ETHIOPIA SHOULD URGENTLY CONSULT EITHER EAST AFRICAN DEPT IN THE FCO, OR EAST AND WEST AFRICAN DEPARTMENT IN OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION, WHO I TRUST WILL UNDERTAKE NECESSARY INITIAL COORDINATION. IT WILL BE DISASTROUS IF THE ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES FIND THEMSELVES OVERWHELMED BY UNCOORDINATED AND UNRELATED DEMANDS FOR CLEARANCE FOR NUMEROUS FLIGHTS, HOWEVER WELL-INTENTIONED THE SPONSORS.

3. GRATEFUL FOR EARLIEST POSSIBLE INFORMATION BY TELEGRAM ABOUT OTHER FLIGHTS LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE. I SUGGEST SPONSORS SHOULD BE TOLD TO COORDINATE THEIR ARRANGEMENTS CLOSELY WITH ONE OF THE UK RELIEF ORGANISATIONS, PREFERABLY SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND OR OXFAM, WHO ALONE CAN MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO RECEIVE, HANDLE AND DISTRIBUTE RELIEF SUPPLIES ARRIVING HERE. CONSULTATION WITH OXFAM OR SCF WILL ALSO BE ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE THAT USEFUL RATHER THAN USELESS SUPPLIES ARE DESPATCHED. THERE IS A LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS OF THIS KIND WHICH ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES CAN ACCEPT AND HANDLE AT ONE TIME. SOME SPACING WILL BE ESSENTIAL.

BARBER

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

LIMITED

EAD  
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WED  
PS  
PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/MR RALSON  
PS/PUS  
MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)  
MAED

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )  
EWAD )  
ECD )  
DU )  
MR R BROWNING )  
MR H AREUTHNOTT )

DS8 )  
DS11 ) MOD  
D OF OPS(AS) )  
DCS (ROW) )

ODA

3/11

E/1171

Copy psc to  
Mr Innes MAED

Mr Holmes  
NENAD

LEWADADU

ODA

pa

3/10

PB on EWA 57/534/01

W

117  
209  
W/E

M. Hunt



cc Mr Browning  
Mr. Buick  
Mr. Freeman  
or Osborne

Mr. Gregory Hood  
Mr. W. G. Smith  
The proposal in  
para 5 looks like  
a non-starter  
2 p. Back  
1/11

With the compliments of

NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA  
DEPARTMENT

PB on EWA 57/534/01

6.11.84.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE  
LONDON, SW1A 2AH



4. In reply to Mr Luce's question the Ambassador thought that a detailed assessment of Sudan's needs would take time to compile. Emergency relief was needed now in the form of grain, dried milk etcetera. The drought was adding new refugees daily from Ethiopia. Mr Luce said that the British gouvernement was prepared to look sympathetically on requests for help from voluntary agencies like Oxfam but was awaiting proposals. He referred to Britain's contribution to the EC food aid programme and the United States' recent contribution to the Sudan. The Ambassador was concerned that any relief aid might be confined to the Ethiopian refugees. Mr Holmes said his understanding was that it would be available for all drought victims in the Sudan not just refugees.

5. There was some further discussion about how to get aid into rebel-held areas in Ethiopia. Mr Luce suggested that the Sudanese and Ethiopian governments would have to agree if aid were to pass through the Sudan. The Ambassador believed that donor governments would have to agree with the Ethiopians to allow voluntary agencies to operate in this way. The Sudanese would not object but it was unlikely that the Ethiopians would agree.

6. In conclusion the Ambassador confirmed that the Sudanese Government's number one priority was relief to the border area with Ethiopia. If not, there was a possibility of civil disturbances between the already hard-pressed local population and refugees. The Sudanese Government should be able then to cope with difficulties in other areas.

cc: PS/Mr Luce  
PS/Mr Raison  
Mr Fergusson  
Mr Egerton  
Mr Mackenzie, EAD  
Mr Sands Smith, ODA  
Mr Shelton, Khartoum

FCO  
(COA)



Date:

1169  
W/E  
30 OCT 1984

Ref. No:

103/T/84

The attached letter appears to be more appropriate for your Department.

The writer ~~has~~/has not been informed.

EAD says no action to be taken

AB on 57/534/01

*[Signature]* 11/11/84

Record Services Section

Room 339

Queen Anne's Gate

LONDON SW1



FREE PASSAGE

The TPLF has issued a statement on the famine in Ethiopia and has proposed as follows.

As saving innocent human life ranks supreme among its priorities:-

1. The TPLF again presents its proposal of June, 1983 where it indicated that it would fully cooperate with any agency or government that is interested in helping the victims.
2. As the great majority of the victims are in the TPLF and EPDM (Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement) administered areas which are out of the central government, the TPLF proposes that any help should be delivered be it through the government held towns or otherwise, without any obstruction so as not uncannily force the victims to make dangerous trips as their physical conditions can't endure.
3. The TPLF again declares that it will allow all international relief aid workers to move about freely, to and fro-between the government held towns and the liberated areas, as they wish.
4. Appreciating the positive involvement of donors, the TPLF declares that it will fully protect international relief aid-workers in the liberated areas.
5. The TPLF will fully facilitate the activities of the relief aid workers in the liberated areas by making air-strips, roads, etc. safe and at their disposal.
6. There will neither be any land mines planted in the roads and air-strips used by the relief workers, nor any attack against convoys, cars and planes with Red Cross signs.

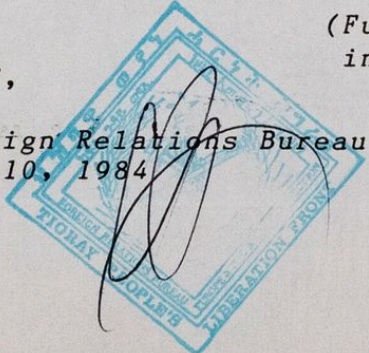
The TPLF appeals to the UN, OAU, all humanitarian agencies and governments to seriously consider all options available in channeling aid to the starving victims and save them from the hovering calamities.

This is a time when humanity is put to the test in its great ideals, and we know we will prove our worth.

(Further information will be forth-coming soon.)

TPLF,

Foreign Relations Bureau  
25, 10, 1984



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الثورة الشعبية لتحرير تقي

## Tigray People's Liberation Front

OFFICE

TEL.

P.O. BOX

### ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT REFUSES RED CROSS PLANE TO AIRLIFT FOREIGNERS TRAPPED IN LALIBELA

On the 19th October 1984, in the battle of Lalibela where troops of the Ethiopian government suffered telling blows, ten foreigners had to have the inconvenience of being caught in a dangerous situation. The TPLF and the EPDM however, saw to it that the safety of these foreigners was completely guaranteed as long as they were in our operational area.

The ICRC contacted the TPLF and requested if a plane may be sent to Lalibela to air lift the foreigners: some are sick and elderly and the TPLF obliged.

At 2 p.m. on October 25th 1984 however, the TPLF was informed by the ICRC that the Ethiopian government has refused to allow the plane to leave Addis Abeba to pick up the foreigners.

In doing this, the enemy is trying to stubbornly deny the gravity of the conflict in Tigray and Wollo. The enemy tried to recapture Lalibela on October 22nd 1984, but it suffered yet another defeat. This had exposed the foreigners to extreme dangers and as the enemy may again try to take the town by military force to show the world that it is still in control of the situation, the foreigners will again be in dangerous circumstances.

Taking this into consideration, the TPLF and the EPDM remind all international agencies and concerned governments to urgently request the Addis Abeba regime to allow the Red Cross plane to fly to Lalibela and air lift the foreigners.

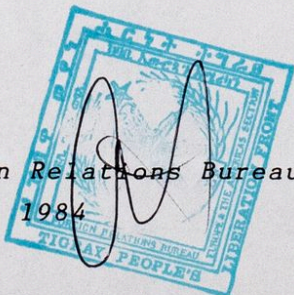
As mentioned above, since some of the foreigners in Lalibela are sick and elderly, we take this opportunity to remind those who are concerned to understand the urgency of the situation.

The TPLF and the EPDM still look forward to helping the foreigners in Lalibela to have a safe conduct out of the war zone.

TPLF,

Foreign Relations Bureau

26,10, 1984



O 301321Z OCT 84

FM MODUK AIR

TO RBDWDFG/BRITISH EMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO RBDYR/HQ 1 GP

RBDYF/RAF LYNEHAM

RBDWDFG/FCO LONDON

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SIC JDA

IMMEDIATE DESK BY FIRST CONTACT.

FOR SQN LDR MORLEY FROM DS8B, FCO FOR EAD.

ETHIOPIA FAMINE RELIEF RAF ASSISTANCE. 1. FCO TEL TODAY ADVISED OF VERY URGENT NEED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROVISION OF VISAS FOR RAF DETACHMENT. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE ARRANGEMENTS FOLLOWING IS A COMPLETE LIST OF DETACHMENT PERSONNEL WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO PUT TO ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME:

TRANSIT CREW

| NAME              | DATE OF BIRTH | PASSPORT | PLACE OF BIRTH | DATE OF ISSUE |
|-------------------|---------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| DANKS JP          | 13 JUN 45     | N934788B | NEWPORT        | 4 JUL 80      |
| DODSON WGS        | 12 OCT 56     | G024675A | GLASGOW        | 28 JUN 78     |
| FELLOWS C         | 7 AUG 45      | M432351  | LONDON         | 7 FEB 80      |
| FRENCH RA         | 3 DEC 41      | C1177294 | DUSSELDORF     | 25 AUG 77     |
| GIRLING MJ        | 3 SEP 48      | 242002D  | LONDON         | 23 OCT 81     |
| HESELWOOD R       | 24 AUG 46     | C926411  | DUSSELDORF     | 4 JAN 77      |
| LANE PD           | 27 NOV 43     | N367369  | NEWPORT        | 8 MAY 80      |
| LEE T             | 4 MAY 59      | N355379C | NEWPORT        | 24 JUN 81     |
| LONG RAD          | 26 JUN 41     | N214957B | NEWPORT        | 8 SEP 77      |
| MASTERS SM        | 16 AUG 61     | N291397D | NEWPORT        | 31 MAY 83     |
| MYERS LE          | 8 DEC 48      | P297154B | PETERBOROUGH   | 23 FEB 78     |
| PLUMMER AJW       | 8 AUG 42      | N486155D | NEWPORT        | 8 NOV 83      |
| POWELL RJA        | 4 APR 55      | N026243  | NEWPORT        | 24 OCT 79     |
| REDCLIFF JH       | 26 OCT 47     | N970482A | NEWPORT        | 11 JAN 77     |
| ROWLAND JDG       | 26 APR 39     | 986162C  | LONDON         | 4 MAR 81      |
| STEIN NJA         | 13 JUL 60     | N9084924 | NEWPORT        | 13 MAY 81     |
| STOKES RCW        | 10 NOV 30     | N241427C | NEWPORT        | 2 APR 81      |
| WARDLAW ES        | 3 SEP 48      | N301190C | NEWPORT        | 7 MAY 81      |
| WOOD JR           | 11 NOV 57     | P142078B | PETERBOROUGH   | 13 MAY 77     |
| WRIGLEY CM        | 19 JUL 53     | N777792D | NEWPORT        | 6 JUL 84      |
| DARKE AJ          | 8 AUG 46      | N135482B | NEWPORT        | 3 JUN 77      |
| CHANDLER HT       | 4 NOV 46      | 795918C  | LONDON         | 13 AUG 80     |
| LOGAN KC          | 30 AUG 40     | N587876D | NEWPORT        | 20 NOV 78     |
| MORGAN DR         | 25 MAY 44     | 026189F  | LONDON         | 18 OCT 79     |
| RADSTOCK-SMITH MR | 25 APR 35     | N332585  | NEWPORT        | 10 APR 80     |
| PONTING SP        | 31 OCT 52     | 189599D  | LONDON         | 7 SEP 81      |
| RAMSDALE LJ       | 3 JUL 49      | 023587D  | LONDON         | 26 MAR 81     |
| SARGEANT CJ       | 22 DEC 54     | N743382C | NEWPORT        | 9 JUN 82      |
| SIGGERY KW        | 8 JAN 62      | N359399D | NEWPORT        | 11 JUL 83     |
| SKELTON M         | 21 DEC 46     | 154399C  | LONDON         | 9 MAR 79      |
| SKIPP JS          | 31 MAY 55     | 449435D  | LONDON         | 14 APR 82     |
| SPEARS PA         | 4 APR 50      | 743649D  | LONDON         | 16 DEC 82     |
| SPENCER DA        | 7 SEP 62      | N870552D | NEWPORT        | 3 OCT 84      |

CONFIDENTIAL

/ STALKER

Mr. Hanks  
1189 Refs.  
PBm EMT  
57/534/01  
2/11/84

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|               |           |          |              |           |
|---------------|-----------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| STALKER A     | 25 SEP 55 | 752445C  | LONDON       | 16 JUL 80 |
| VALENTINE A   | 24 FEB 55 | 211402D  | LONDON       | 24 SEP 81 |
| WATSON NM     | 28 FEB 47 | N027763C | NEWPORT      | 24 SEP 80 |
| WHITING J     | 28 APR 58 | P986041A | PETERBOROUGH | 16 DEC 76 |
| ARNOLD P      | 7 JUN 49  | N496398D | NEWPORT      | 8 DEC 83  |
| ATTWOOD DJ    | 17 JAN 63 | N245530C | NEWPORT      | 3 APR 81  |
| BARRON DE     | 29 MAR 48 | 404265B  | LONDON       | 13 OCT 76 |
| BELL M        | 12 JUL 66 | N633814D | NEWPORT      | 3 APR 84  |
| <hr/>         |           |          |              |           |
| BISSELL JW    | 6 MAR 58  | 592131E  | LONDON       | 5 OCT 84  |
| BURTON AJ     | 7 FEB 64  | N608688C | NEWPORT      | 22 MAR 82 |
| CHISOLM GR    | 26 MAY 62 | 442121E  | GLASGOW      | 15 JUN 84 |
| CLARKE CJG    | 11 AUG 53 | 257894E  | LONDON       | 6 FEB 84  |
| COLEMAN R     | 3 JUL 44  | 955763D  | LONDON       | 2 MAY 83  |
| CONNELL AJ    | 9 FEB 59  | 229344E  | LONDON       | 9 JAN 84  |
| FOLEY P       | 21 JAN 54 | N556530C | NEWPORT      | 24 FEB 82 |
| GOVAN S       | 21 FEB 56 | P793658A | PETERBOROUGH | 31 DEC 75 |
| HEATON SM     | 12 SEP 60 | L506713B | LIVERPOOL    | 5 JUN 79  |
| HILLIAR GW    | 21 DEC 63 | N456097C | NEWPORT      | 16 NOV 81 |
| LANGLEY MA    | 20 MAY 64 | N837830C | NEWPORT      | 11 AUG 82 |
| MCENTEE DJ    | 21 AUG 61 | N417917C | NEWPORT      | 17 SEP 81 |
| MAHON CPN     | 7 DEC 43  | 258104E  | LONDON       | 6 FEB 84  |
| MERRITT CJ    | 22 OCT 48 | P652282C | PETERBOROUGH | 24 FEB 82 |
| ALLEN MJ      | 21 JUL 53 | N039092  | NEWPORT      | 7 NOV 79  |
| BATTEN DC     | 26 APR 52 | N519269D | NEWPORT      | 23 JAN 84 |
| BELL STW      | 3 JAN 63  | 442122E  | LONDON       | 15 JUN 84 |
| BLACK SD      | 4 APR 55  | P337080B | PETERBOROUGH | 5 APR 76  |
| BOULLIMIER AD | 26 AUG 54 | 865515D  | LONDON       | 5 MAR 83  |
| BULLEN JD     | 12 MAY 48 | C606071  | ANKARA       | 18 JUN 75 |
| <hr/>         |           |          |              |           |
| COONEY PJ     | 17 MAR 61 | 350316D  | LONDON       | 20 FEB 82 |
| COTTELL P     | 4 NOV 52  | 938125D  | LONDON       | 20 APR 83 |
| DENNING TWE   | 13 JUL 44 | N239066D | NEWPORT      | 3 MAY 83  |
| DORRINGTON JM | 7 MAY 54  | N413359D | NEWPORT      | 15 AUG 83 |
| DRUREY SJ     | 25 DEC 58 | 261025D  | LONDON       | 13 NOV 81 |
| EVANS PA      | 5 MAY 53  | 902709C  | LONDON       | 15 DEC 80 |
| FORD AD       | 18 FEB 59 | P680978C | PETERBOROUGH | 10 MAR 82 |
| GARDINER EP   | 9 AUG 60  | N331700  | NEWPORT      | 9 APR 80  |
| GODDARD MR    | 1 MAR 60  | N562430D | NEWPORT      | 21 FEB 84 |
| GOSLING AT    | 21 AUG 57 | N397935C | NEWPORT      | 24 AUG 81 |
| GRUNNER-      |           |          |              |           |
| OVERGAARD PA  | 25 FEB 63 | 577717E  | LONDON       | 20 SEP 84 |
| HALL CE       | 7 FEB 46  | 595892C  | LONDON       | 16 APR 80 |
| HALL MA       | 3 MAR 49  | N397426D | NEWPORT      | 2 AUG 83  |
| HILLIER CR    | 21 FEB 60 | N530743A | NEWPORT      | 21 FEB 75 |
| HYNES CA      | 3 FEB 44  | 264161D  | LONDON       | 17 NOV 81 |
| JONES KS      | 4 JUN 59  | 914216C  | LONDON       | 16 JAN 81 |
| JONES RL      | 13 AUG 49 | 967146D  | LONDON       | 9 MAY 83  |
| LOCKE TF      | 13 JUL 45 | N137396C | NEWPORT      | 10 FEB 81 |
| MAHONEY JR    | 25 FEB 46 | 461776D  | LONDON       | 23 APR 82 |
| MARNEY TM     | 10 MAY 43 | N716801C | NEWPORT      | 21 MAY 82 |
| MOFFITT FJ    | 30 NOV 40 | M318442  | LONDON       | 12 DEC 79 |
| MOORE KE      | 17 MAY 61 | 982860D  | LONDON       | 5 MAR 81  |

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

/ NICHOLLS

# CONFIDENTIAL

|             |           |          |              |           |
|-------------|-----------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| NICHOLLS DW | 26 NOV 79 | N052642  | NEWPORT      | 26 NOV 79 |
| PINNOCK RJ  | 17 JUL 55 | P621509A | PETERBOROUGH | 1 MAY 75  |
| MOORE SL    | 17 MAR 63 | N396647D | NEWPORT      | 2 AUG 53  |
| MUFFETT GAJ | 24 JUL 46 | 368469B  | LONDON       | 25 AUG 76 |
| MURPHY BN   | 21 APR 63 | N870371D | NEWPORT      | 3 OCT 84  |
| NUTTER P    | 22 MAR 61 | N659058B | NEWPORT      | 26 FEB 79 |
| OWEN DH     | 9 AUG 60  | N515628B | NEWPORT      | 18 AUG 78 |
| PEMBREY TEC | 7 JUN 50  | 330880E  | LONDON       | 2 APR 84  |
| PERRY SH    | 23 FEB 55 | 069516D  | LONDON       | 28 APR 81 |
| SWAFFER DC  | 10 MAY 46 | 702320D  | LONDON       | 27 OCT 82 |
| TOWER ML    | 27 DEC 61 | N546322D | NEWPORT      | 10 FEB 84 |
| UNSG JH     | 26 JUL 57 | N749202B | NEWPORT      | 3 MAY 79  |
| WAITT CB    | 4 AUG 58  | N914186A | NEWPORT      | 17 JUN 76 |
| WARD JA     | 12 JUL 63 | 303102E  | LONDON       | 9 MAR 84  |
| WOODS SCS   | 22 AUG 51 | N344120D | NEWPORT      | 29 JUN 83 |
| BATTY ARJ   | 2 MAR 42  | N757307D | NEWPORT      | 26 JUN 84 |
| BLAND DC    | 17 JAN 41 | 717578B  | LONDON       | 16 DEC 77 |
| BRADICK P   | 9 APR 61  | N658972B | NEWPORT      | 26 FEB 79 |
| MITCHELL G  | 21 APR 58 | N620856A | NEWPORT      | 4 JUN 75  |

## POLICE DETACHMENT

| NAME       | DATE OF BIRTH | PASSPORT | PLACE OF ISSUE | DATE OF ISSUE |
|------------|---------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| BUCKHAN AW | 15 AUG 55     | N111598  | NEWPORT        | 5 MAY 83      |
| BUTLER P   | 23 APR 48     | 808985C  | LONDON         | 27 AUG 80     |
| PORT JE    | 29 OCT 51     | N521927D | NEWPORT        | 24 JAN 84     |
| STEEDMAN D | 3 JUN 46      | N891426C | NEWPORT        | 19 OCT 82     |
| THOMAS SF  | 13 DEC 51     | N856133D | NEWPORT        | 12 SEP 84     |
| WAITE PA   | 28 JUL 49     | N831451D | NEWPORT        | 13 AUG 84     |

## POLICE DETACHMENT - TRANSIT ONLY

| NAME     | DATE OF BIRTH | PASSPORT | PLACE OF ISSUE | DATE OF ISSUE |
|----------|---------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| COOK RG  | 26 NOV 58     | 684799C  | LONDON         | 6 JUN 80      |
| CILROY F | 30 JUN 58     | N853205B | NEWPORT        | 19 MAY 80     |

## COOKS

| NAME          | DATE OF BIRTH | PASSPORT | PLACE OF ISSUE | DATE OF ISSUE |
|---------------|---------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| COLLINGWOOD P | 28 OCT 60     | P429560C | PETERBOROUGH   | 2 JUL 81      |
| GREEN K       | 2 JUL 60      | N090433  | NEWPORT        | 29 AUG 79     |
| HIBBERD H     | 23 JUL 60     | J075045  | JERSEY         | 27 FEB 76     |
| HIGGS B       | 16 MAY 50     | N171894C | NEWPORT        | 26 FEB 81     |
| RAWSON S      | 22 JUN 61     | N898198C | NEWPORT        | 1 NOV 82      |
| SIMPSON N     | 18 MAY 48     | N557404D | NEWPORT        | 17 FEB 84     |

3  
CONFIDENTIAL

/ 2.

## CONFIDENTIAL

2. MUST EMPHASISE THAT FOR US TO COMPLY WITH THE LETTER OF ETHIOPIAN REGULATIONS CONCERNING VISA FORMALITIES IN LONDON WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE IN THE TIME FRAME. STILL CONSIDER THAT CLEARANCE ON ARRIVAL WOULD BE ONLY VIABLE OPTION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

A) NUMBER OF PERSONNEL INVOLVED CURRENTLY STATIONED IN CYPRUS AND WILL BE PICKED UP EN ROUTE.

B) UNLIKELY THAT ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY COULD COPE WITH APPROX 100 APPLICATION IN TIME FOR DEPARTURE (IN ANY EVENT WE WOULD BE UNABLE TO PROVIDE PASSPORTS IN LONDON AS PERSONNEL CURRENTLY WIDELY DISPERSED).

3. IN ADDITION TO PERSONNEL NAMED ABOVE IT IS LIKELY THAT DETACHMENT WILL BRING APPROX 6 REPS OF THE PRESS ETC. HOWEVER THESE WILL ONLY BE GIVEN PASSAGE IF THEY HOLD APPROPRIATE VISAS AND ARE NOT TO BE INCLUDED UNDER RAF ARRANGEMENTS.

4. ON CURRENT PLANS (WHICH WE HOPE WILL BE FINAL) INITIAL DEPLOYMENT WILL CONSIST OF QTY 7 HERCULES. A/C WILL TRAVEL IN 2 WAVES (3 AND 4). UNDERSTAND 1 GP HAVE COPIED RELEVANT TRANSOP TO ADDIS. AS YOU KNOW ONLY 2 (2) HERCULES WILL REMAIN AFTER INITIAL DEPLOYMENT.

BT

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

LIMITED

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NEWS D  
WED  
MAED  
NENAD PARLY UNIT  
PS  
PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/MR RAISON  
PS/PUS  
MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )  
EWAD )  
ECD ) ODA  
DU )  
MR R BROWNING )  
MR H ARBUTHNOTT )

IA - 1B DEPT of TRANSPORT

4  
CONFIDENTIAL

*Mr Hunt*

*E 9 38*

*Noted Mr 2/11*

1167.

*1189 2/11*

30 OCT 1984

**ACTION COPY**

**COPY FOR REGISTRATION**

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DA 37  
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PROJECTA THROUGHOUT

LIC NR 384

OO F C O

OO O D A

PP UKREP BRUSSELS

PP DUBLIN

PP ADDIS ABABA

PP UKMIS NEW YORK

UNCLASSIFIED

GRS 200

FM ROME 301400Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 740

OF 30 OCTOBER 1984

AND TO IMMEDIATE ODA,

INFO PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS, ADDIS ABABA, DUBLIN, UKMIS NEW YORK.

INFO SAVING TO OTHER EC POSTS.

*191a* YOUR TELNO 484 TO UKREP BRUSSELS: ETHIOPIA

*1073* REPEAT OF YOUR TELNO 292 TO DUBLIN STILL NOT RECEIVED. MEANWHILE ITALIAN AID DEPARTMENT TELL US THAT LATEST ITALIAN POSITION ON AID FOR ETHIOPIA IS AS FOLLOWS: EMERGENCY AID WORTH 18 BILLION LIRE (£7.8 MILLION) AGREED, 15 BILLION LIRE (£6.5 MILLION) IN FOOD AID (OF WHICH 5 MILLION TONNES RICE), 2 BILLION LIRE (£870,000) SPARE PARTS FOR VEHICLES, AND 1 BILLION LIRE (£435,000) COST OF CHARTER FOR 45 DAYS OF A G222 CIVILLIAN AIRCRAFT FOR INTERNAL TRANSPORT.

*EAD dealing*

2. PART OF THE FOOD AID, CHIEFLY INFANTS' FOOD, WILL BE AIRLIFTED WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS: THE REST WILL FOLLOW WITHIN A MONTH BY SEA. SO WILL THE SPARE PARTS. THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE DESPATCHED IN ABOUT 15 DAYS.

BRIDGES

FCO PSE PASS INFO SAVING TO OTHER EC POSTS.

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1166

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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PS/MR RIFKIND

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PS/PUS

MR FERGUSSON

MR JOHNSON

MR WILSON/SMITH

Sir C Titchell (ODS)

MR WILLIAMS ODA

MR OSADORN ODA

MR CHERRY ODA

IMMEDIATE  
ADVANCE COPY

1038/30

UNCLASSIFIED

FM ROME 300930Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY FCO (301000Z)

TELNO 739 OF 30 OCTOBER 1984

AND TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY ODA (301000Z)

INFO PRIORITY ADDIS ABABA

INFO ROUTINE UKREP BRUSSELS, UKMIS NEW YORK, UKMIS GENEVA.

ETHIOPIA FAMINE: WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

SUMMARY

1. WFP CALCULATED OVER ONE MILLION TONNES FOOD GRAIN (INCLUDING 400,000 TONNES FOR ETHIOPIA) IN ADDITION TO PLEDGES ALREADY MADE REQUIRED IN NEXT 12 MONTHS FOR CURRENTLY ASSESSED NEEDS IN AFRICA, PLUS PROBLEM OF UNKNOWN SIZE IN KENYA. THEY HAVE LAUNCHED THE INITIATIVE WITH UNICEF AND UNDRO TO COORDINATE ALL ASPECTS OF FOOD SUPPLY FOR ETHIOPIA. SOME NEW PLEDGES ANNOUNCED. REQUEST FOR UK TECHNICAL COOPERATION TO SUPPORT WFP EFFORT.

DETAIL

2. FOLLOWING THE UK INITIATIVE IN THE OECD GROUP (MY TELNO 735 OF 29 OCTOBER) ITS CHAIRMAN (CANADA) PROPOSED THAT THE COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES (CFA) OPENED WITH DISCUSSION OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OF WFP, CONCENTRATING ON THE FAMINE IN AFRICA: THIS WAS AGREED WITHOUT DISSENT. INGRAM (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WFP) SAID THERE WAS NO GLOBAL SHORTAGE OF FOOD GRAINS, BUT THE IMBALANCE BETWEEN SURPLUS AND DEFICIT COUNTRIES WAS GREATER THAN EVER BEFORE. HE ESTIMATED THAT ETHIOPIA WOULD REQUIRE 500,000 TONNES OF FOOD GRAINS OVER THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS. OF WHICH

BEFORE. HE ESTIMATED THAT ETHIOPIA WOULD REQUIRE 500,000 TONNES OF FOOD GRAINS OVER THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS, OF WHICH 100,000 TONNES HAD SO FAR BEEN PLEDGED. IN THE SAHEL REGION THE MAIN REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE FOR NIGER (375,000 TONNES), MALI (200,000 TONNES), CHAD (100,000 TONNES), MAURITANIA AND BURKINA FASSO (NO FIGURES MENTIONED): ONLY NOMINAL AMOUNTS HAD SO FAR BEEN PLEDGED FOR THESE COUNTRIES. KENYA WOULD BE A NEW FACTOR WHOSE REQUIREMENTS HAD YET TO BE ASSESSED AND MOZAMBIQUE WOULD ALSO REQUIRE NEW PLEDGES. A DOCUMENT DETAILING THE FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION IN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE, NOTABLY BANGLADESH, FOLLOWS.

3. INGRAM SAID WFP DOES NOT HAVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES TO PLAY THE FULL COORDINATING ROLE IN ETHIOPIA THAT UNICEF PLAYED IN KAMPUCHEA. NEVERTHELESS, HE HAD LAST WEEK OPENED DISCUSSION WITH UNICEF AND THE UN DISASTER RELIEF OFFICE (UNDRO) TO IMPROVE AND ENLARGE THEIR JOINT ABILITY, IN COOPERATION WITH THE ETHIOPIAN RELIEF COMMISSION, TO COORDINATE ALL ASPECTS OF FOOD DELIVERY. HE AWAITS THE UNDRO AND UNICEF RESPONSES WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. MEANWHILE WFP WILL SHORTLY SEND A TEAM TO SURVEY CURRENT PORT AND INLAND TRANSPORTATION BOTTLE-NECKS: THEY HAVE ASKED THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT FOR AGREEMENT TO BASE A WFP SHIPPING OFFICER IN ASSAB, TO APPOINT STAFF IN REMOTE AREAS TO MONITOR FOOD DELIVERY AND COORDINATE AMONG AGENCIES AT FIELD LEVEL, AND TO STRENGTHEN THE WFP OFFICE IN ADDIS.

4. IN SUBSEQUENT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WE GAVE PAGE (HEAD, WFP EMERGENCY UNIT) THE ODA OFFER OF TC FOR A GRAIN STORAGE EXPERT FROM TDRI WHICH HE WELCOMED AND IS URGENTLY CONSIDERING. HE REQUESTED THAT ODA ASK THE UK VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IF THEY CAN ASSIST IN PROVIDING FOOD MONITORS TO REPORT BACK TO WFP FROM REMOTE FOOD DISTRIBUTION OUTPOSTS: WE HAVE REQUESTED DETAILED TORS IN TIME FOR THIS REQUEST TO BE MADE AT ITS MEETING OF THE DISASTER EMERGENCY COMMITTEE. PAGE WOULD ALSO WELCOME TC TO PROVIDE WFP WITH TWO OR THREE TRANSPORTATION OFFICERS BASED IN ADDIS FOR SOME MONTHS AT LEAST WHOSE JOB WOULD BE TO MONITOR THE INLAND TRANSPORTATION SITUATION, IDENTIFY BOTTLE-NECKS AND PROPOSE SOLUTIONS: HE HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE DETAILED TORS SOONEST.

TM IN SUBSEQUENT DEBATE THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEW OR RECENT PLEDGES TO ETHIOPIA, WERE MADE:

USA: 80,000 TONNES (US DOLLARS 76 MILLION INCLUDING TRANSPORT) AND CONSIDERING SIGNIFICANT FURTHER AMOUNTS. TOTAL OF 300,000 TONNES FOR SUB-SAHARA AFRICA APPROVED SINCE 1 OCTOBER.

SWEDEN: US DOLLARS 6 MILLION PLEDGED SINCE 1 JULY, OF WHICH US DOLLARS 1.5 MILLION FOR FOOD GRAIN THROUGH NGOS. A LOGISTICAL TEAM NOW IN ETHIOPIA "ASSISTING WITH TRANSPORT PLANNING".

NETHERLANDS: US DOLLARS 3.8 MILLION FOR SUPPLY AND TRANSPORTATION OF FOOD BY NGOS, BRINGING TOTAL PLEDGE IN 1984 TO UK DOLLARS 6.2 MILLION: A "HERCULES-TYPE" AIRCRAFT FOR INTERNAL TRANSPORT FROM ASMARA.

FRANCE: 5,000 TONNES CEREALS TO WFP'S EMERGENCY FOOD RESERVE

ITALY: 10,000 TONNES RICE TO IEFR, OF WHICH 5,000 TONNES FOR ETHIOPIA.

NORWAY: US DOLLARS 1.7 MILLION THROUGH NGOS.

UK: AS ANNOUNCED IN PARLIAMENT LAST WEEK.

6. DISCUSSION CONTINUES TODAY, WITH A MORE DETAILED STATEMENT PROMISED BY WFP ON THE LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS IN ETHIOPIA. THE ETHIOPIAN REPRESENTATIVE THANKED US FOR TAKING THE INITIATIVE TO BRING THIS UP.

7. PLEASE ADVANCE TO OSBORNE, CHERRY, WILLIAMS (ODA),  
WENBAN-SMITH (EAD,FCO).

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FM FCO 301700Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY 310800Z CAIRO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 361 OF 30 OCTOBER

AND TO IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA AND ROME

*ABOWEWA 57/534/01*

*Amw*

*2/11/84*

1164

YOUR TELNO 513: CLEARANCE FORTHIOPIAN RELIEF FLIGHTS

1. TUR HAS NOW BEEN REPEATED TO ADDIS ABABA AND ROME.

2. SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND (SCF) ON WHOSE BEHALF AIR SOUTH WEST WERE MAKING RELIEF FLIGHT TO ETHIOPIA HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN LONDON WHO MAY HAVE CONTACTED AUTHORITIES IN CAIRO REQUESTING URGENT CLEARANCE. NEVERTHELESS WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD MAKE AN APPROACH TO THE MFA AT A HIGH LEVEL AS SUGGESTED IN PARA. 3 OF TUR.

3. AIR SOUTH WEST IS ONLY ONE OF SEVERAL CIVIL CARRIERS ATTEMPTING TO RUSH EMERGENCY SUPPLIES TO ETHIOPIA. WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND MOD AND HOPE TO AVOID A REPETITION OF THESE DIFFICULTIES.

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ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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EWAD )  
ECD ) ODA  
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MR R BROWNING )  
MR H ARBUTHNOTT )

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MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

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DCS (ROW) )

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FROM CAIRO 301116Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 513 OF 30 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE DOE

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FOLLOWING FOR MENAD AND NEWS DEPARTMENT

EGYPTIAN CLEARANCE FOR ETHIOPIAN RELIEF FLIGHTS

1. WE HAD A PROBLEM AT THE WEEKEND WHEN A CIVIL CARRIER, AIR SOUTHWEST, SOUGHT PERMISSION TO OVERFLY EGYPT WITH A CARGO OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR ETHIOPIA. PERHAPS NATURALLY THEY WANTED TO COME THROUGH AT MINIMUM NOTICE.
2. THE MFA, THROUGH WHOM WE MUST DEAL FOR CIVIL AIRCRAFT CLEARANCES, PROVED INTRACTABLE AND REFUSED TO RELAX THEIR STRIC RULES WHICH IN PRACTICE MEAN THAT WE MUST HAVE AT LEAST FOUR WORKING DAYS NOTICE TO OBTAIN CLEARANCE FOR AN EMERGENCY FLIGHT. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, SOME SIGNS THAT FLIGHTS BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT CAN BE CLEARED MORE SPEEDILY DIRECT WITH THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES. IT WOULD MAKE IT CONSIDERABLY NEATER AND PROBABLY FASTER IF ANY CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT BEING USED TO AIRLIFT RELIEF SUPPLIES COULD COORDINATE WITH THE MOD AND SEEK CLEARANCE WITH THE MOD AND SEEK CLEARANCE VIA MILITARY CHANNELS IE REPRESENT THEMSELVES AS PART OF A UNIFIED GOVERNMENT RESPONSE.
3. SHOULD THIS BE IMPOSSIBLE YOU MAY WISH TO INSTRUCT US TO MAKE AN APPROACH AT HIGH LEVEL TO THE MFA - ID E E E  
AN APPROACH AT HIGH LEVEL TO THE MFA - IE PERHAPS TO BOUTROS GHALI - IN THE HOPE OF BULLDOZING THROUGH A MORE FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE.
4. SINCE DRAFTING THE ABOVE WE HAVE HAD THE DAILY MAIL TELEPHONING FROM ROME WHERE AN AIR SOUTHWEST AIRCRAFT IS APPARENTLY STRANDED WITHOUT CLEARANCE TO COME THROUGH EGYPTIAN AIRSPACE. WE EXPLAINED THE POSITION, BUT THE REPORTER'S ATTITUDE SUGGESTS THAT SOME PUBLICITY WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE GENERATED SHORTLY.

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ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

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MR R BROWNING )  
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DD 310600Z ADDIS ABABA

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FM ODA LONDON 302059Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY 310600Z ADDIS ABABA

TELEGRAM NUMBER MODEV U/N OF 30 OCTOBER

INFO ROUTINE NAIROBI FOR EADD

FOR BARBER FROM OSBORNE: PLEASE SHOW TO BUIST.

PBONEWA 57/534/01

*[Signature]*  
2/11/84

DROUGHT ASSISTANCE

1. GRATEFUL YOU DISCUSS WITH BUIST WHAT ASSISTANCE YOU THINK COMMUNITY SHOULD GIVE ETHIOPIA, ADDITIONAL TO PROBABLE POUNDS STERLING 20M FOR FOOD (INCLUDING ITS SHIPMENT AND INTERNAL TRANSPORT) AND DRUGS. WE NEED ADVICE BY 1500Z ON 31 OCTOBER FOR OUR RECOMMENDATIONS IN COREPER ON 1 NOV.
2. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ADVICE FROM YOU AND AGENCIES WE EXPECT TO PROVIDE BILATERALLY: (ALL FIGURES READ IN MILLION POUNDS STERLING).

|                                                                    |      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1. INTERNAL TRANSPORT FOR BRITISH FOOD AID                         | 0.75 |
| 2. SPARE PARTS FOR RELIEF AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION            | 0.1  |
| 3. TEN NEW LANDROVERS FOR RRC                                      | 0.09 |
| 4. TEN DUMPER TRUCKS AND SPARES, ASSAB PORT                        | 0.35 |
| 5. HERCULES FOR USE BY RED CROSS, FOUR WEEKS, PLUS SECOND AIRCRAFT | 0.5  |
| 6. DRILLING RIGS FOR SCF                                           | 0.36 |
| 7. LANDROVERS FOR RED CROSS, SCF, CAFOD AND AID ADMINISTRATION     | 0.04 |
| 8. 5 X 30 TONNE TRUCKS (CAFOD)                                     | 0.25 |
| 9. SEEDS (OXFAM)                                                   | 0.2  |
| 10. EQUIPMENT TO BE TRANSPORTED FOR DISASTERS EMERGENCY            |      |

RESTRICTED

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| COMMITTEE                                                          | 0.15 |
| 11. CONSULTANTS, ADVISERS, MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, ETC               | 0.2  |
| 12. SHIPMENT 2000 TONNES FOOD AID TO REBEL AREAS<br>(NO PUBLICITY) | 0.14 |
| SUB-TOTAL                                                          | 3.13 |
| A. 6000 TONNES BRITISH BILATERAL FOOD AID INCLUDING<br>SHIPPING    | 1.0  |
| B. BRITISH SHARE OF NEW EUROPEAN COMMUNITY FOOD AID                | 4.5  |
| C. AS A SEPARATE EXERCISE, MOD ARE PROVIDING THE TWO RAF HERCULES  |      |
| HOWE                                                               |      |

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )  
EWAD )  
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MR R BROWNING )  
MR H ARBUTHNOTT )

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DCS (ROW) )

IA - 1B DEPT of TRANSPORT

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RESTRICTED

To: Telegraph Branch

Copy received from Harcourt Cob.  
(Filed in our AA. file)  
(Entered in Register)

The following details relate to an ODA telegram draft handed in to the Duty Officer for transmission by the FCO, after the Telegraph Branch had closed down for the day. The draft has been sent to the FCO for issue as 'MODEV u/n'.

Drafting Officer D.R. OSBORNE

Addressed to ADDIS ABABA.

Repeated by telegram to NAIROBI FOR EADD.

INFO by bag/airmail to

Subject DROUGHT ASSISTANCE.

File Number EWA 57/534/01

ODA etc. Distribution

ETHIOPIA DROUGHT DISTRIBUTION

Date 30/10

(signed) 

FOR USE BY ODA TELEGRAPH BRANCH

Date issued ..... FCO Distribution Copy rec'd. ....

ODA Original Draft returned .....

Additional Notes .....

E112

## RESTRICTED

GR 60  
RESTRICTED  
FM ADDIS BABA 301550Z OCT 84  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 320 OF 30 OCTOBER

1080

MY TELNO 296: VISIT OF MPS TO ETHIOPIA.

1. ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES SAY THAT UNDER NEW SCHEDULE (EFFECTIVE 1 NOVEMBER) THERE IS NO FLIGHT FROM LONDON ARRIVING HERE ON SUNDAY 4 NOVEMBER: NOR DO THEY HAVE ANY RECORD OF BOOKINGS IN NAMES OF BALDREY OR BENNETT DURING EARLY NOVEMBER. GRATEFUL EARLIEST CONFIRMATION OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DETAILS AND OTHER INFORMATION REQUESTED IN MY TUR.

BARDER

Bm 57/534/01

*[Handwritten signature]*

COPIES TO:

2/11/84

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PS/MR RIFKIND  
MR HOUSTON  
MR JOHNSON

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 FM ADDIS ABABA 301525Z OCT 84  
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 319 OF 30 OCTOBER

Phonewea 57/534/01

LONHRO'S 707.

1. RALPH CASEY OF TRADEWINDS HAS BEEN INFORMED BY COLONEL ESHETE THAT THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT FOR LONHRO'S 707 AT PRESENT. COLONEL ESHETE WANTS TO USE THE AIRCRAFT BETWEEN DJIBOUTI AND ADDIS ABABA/DIRA DAWA BUT MUST FIRST RESOLVE A "FINANCIAL PROBLEM" IN DJIBOUTI. COLONEL ESHETE HAS TELEXED TRADEWINDS WHO WILL NOW PROBABLY WITHDRAW THE AIRCRAFT AND SEND IT BACK ON 5 NOVEMBER, BY WHICH TIME ESHETE EXPECTS TO HAVE RESOLVED HIS PROBLEM.

2/11/84

BARDER

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

LIMITED

COPIES TO:

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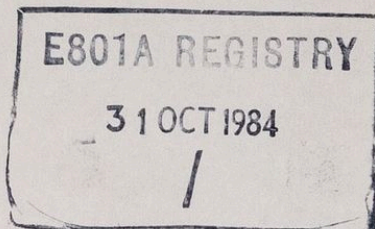
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DESKBY 301700Z  
FM ADDIS ABABA 301450Z OCT 84  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 318 OF 30 OCTOBER  
INFO IMMEDIATE ODA

ETHIOPIAN FAMINE: CIVILIAN AIRLIFT.

1. RRC HAVE SOUGHT OUR HELP IN HAVING TWO UK FLIGHTS RESCHEDULED. THESE ARE NOW DUE TO ARRIVE AFTER DARK AND, FOR THE MOMENT AT LEAST, RRC DO NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES TO ARRANGE RECEPTION AND OFF-LOADING OUTSIDE DAYLIGHT HOURS.

FLIGHTS ARE:

(A) ANGLO AIRLINES AIRCRAFT GBDEA ON CHARTER TO OXFAM ETA  
1079 2330Z 1 NOVEMBER FROM LGW (FCO TEL 254).

(B) FLIGHT NO ML 501 ON CHARTER TO SCF ETA 1630Z 3 NOVEMBER.

2. PLEASE INFORM CHARITIES AND OTHERS OF THIS, WE HOPE SHORT-LIVED, RESTRICTION ON NIGHT ARRIVALS.

3. WE STILL AWAIT CONFIRMATION FROM MFA THAT LANDING ETC FEES WILL BE WAIVED (REFERS ONLY TO PARA 1A ABOVE).

BARDER

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FM ADDIS ABABA 301310Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 315 OF 30 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE ODA, MODUK, UKMIS NEW YORK

INFO ROUTINE WASHINGTON, BONN, NAIROBI (FOR EADD) AND OTHER EC POSTS

1159

Ei/1251 Refer

For 57/534/01  
1/11/84

1158 MY TELNO 311 AND TELECON 30/10 WENBAN-SMITH/BARDER: BRITISH RELIEF AID FOR ETHIOPIA.

SUMMARY

1. FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSES ETHIOPIA'S THANKS FOR GENEROUS RESPONSE TO ETHIOPIAN RELIEF NEEDS BY BRITISH GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC AND RELIEF ORGANISATIONS. RRC COMMISSIONER'S ALLEGEDLY DISOBLIGING COMMENTS IN LONDON DISOWNED AS MISINTERPRETATIONS. NO OBJECTION TO MAKING PUBLIC THIS CORRECTION IN BRITISH PARLIAMENT IF DESIRED.

DETAIL.

2. HE WAS SUMMONED ON 30 OCTOBER BY FOREIGN MINISTER. HE MADE TWO POINTS:

(A) GOSHU EXPRESSED ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT'S WARM APPRECIATION FOR THE OUTPOURING OF CONCERN, SYMPATHY AND VERY TANGIBLE ASSISTANCE AND HELP ON PART OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC AND CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS. ALL IN ETHIOPIA HAD BEEN IMMENSELY IMPRESSED BY THE SCALE OF BRITAIN'S RESPONSE. HE ASKED ME TO CONVEY GRATITUDE OF HIS HEAD OF STATE, AND PARTY AND THE GOVERNMENT:

(B) HE WISHED TO CORRECT IMPRESSION GIVEN BY ALLEGATIONS IN BRITISH MEDIA ABOUT REMARKS REPORTEDLY MADE IN BRITAIN BY THE RRC COMMISSIONER. GOSHU HAD CONTACTED DAWIT IN NEW YORK ABOUT THESE. DAWIT HAD BEEN VERY SURPRISED BY THESE REPORTS. HE HAD NEVER USED THE TERM 'PUBLICITY STUNT' OF HMG'S OFFERS OF AID. DAWIT HAD HAD GOOD DISCUSSIONS WITH OUR MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, AND HAD SPOKEN ONLY BRIEFLY TO THE PRESS. HE HAD BEEN MISINTERPRETED AND MISUNDERSTOOD. DAWIT HIMSELF HAD ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO SAY TO ME PERSONALLY THAT HE (DAWIT) WAS SORRY IF WRONG IMPRESSION HAD BEEN LEFT BEHIND FROM HIS-UK VISIT.

3. HE SAID HE WAS GLAD TO HAVE THESE MESSAGES AND PROMISED TO REPORT THEM IMMEDIATELY, IN TIME FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT TODAY. IF THE PM WAS QUESTIONED IN THE HOUSE ABOUT REPORTS OF DAWIT'S REMARKS, COULD SHE CONFIRM THAT

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/ HMG HAD

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HMG HAD BEEN ASSURED THAT DAWIT HAD BEEN MISQUOTED AND MISREPORTED, AND THAT HIS ALLEGED REMARKS DID NOT REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT OR RRC? GOSHU CONFIRMED EMPHATICALLY THAT HE HOPED THE PM WOULD TAKE THIS LINE.

4. + POINTED OUT THAT IF MATTER DID NOT ARISE IN PARLIAMENT, HMG HAD NO MEANS OF CORRECTING BAD IMPRESSION CREATED BY REPORTS OF DAWIT'S REMARKS. THIS WAS FOR ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, + SUGGESTED MINISTER MIGHT CONSIDER SOME PUBLIC STATEMENT IN BRITAIN TO PUT THE RECORD STRAIGHT, EG BY A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS OR LETTER TO A LEADING BRITISH NEWSPAPER. GOSHU WELCOMED THIS SUGGESTION AND UNDERTOOK TO INSTRUCT ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR IN LONDON ACCORDINGLY.

5. SEE MIFT (NOT TO ALL).

BARDER

*UKMIS.  
Nairobi (for EADD)*

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

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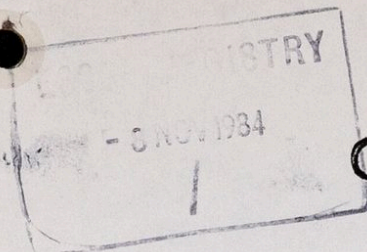
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MR H ARBUTHNOTT )

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30 OCT. 1984

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CONFIDENTIAL

FM ADDIS ABABA 301015Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 312 OF 30 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE ODA, MODUK, WASHINGTON, MOSCOW, SOFIA, EAST  
BERLIN

INFO ROUTINE NAIROBI (FOR EADD)

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 M. H. Hout  
 Yet another pgme for Bulgaria

7/11

TELECON 29/10 WENBAN-SMITH/BARDER: ETHIOPIA RELIEF - AID FROM  
 EASTERN EUROPE.

1. FOR LAST FEW DAYS, RUSSIANS HERE AND THEIR ALLIES HAVE BEEN LYING VERY LOW. AMERICANS' GESTURE IN PAYING FOR FUEL USED BY SOVIET-BUILT ANTONOV'S OF ETHIOPIAN AIR FORCE FOR CARRYING RELIEF SUPPLIES HAS MADE A MAJOR IMPRESSION. BUT AT A RECEPTION ON 29 OCTOBER BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR WAS SPREADING NEWS THAT SUBSTANTIAL RELIEF AID HAD NOW BEEN OFFERED BY BULGARIA, SOVIET UNION AND GDR. HE SAID BULGARIAN RELIEF AID WOULD BE WORTH ABOUT US DOLLARS 12 MILLION, AND THAT AID FROM THE THREE COUNTRIES WOULD INCLUDE AIRCRAFT, HELICOPTERS, LARGE NUMBERS OF TRUCKS AND OTHER VEHICLES, SPARE PARTS, AND ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT SUCH AS DRILLING RIGS. HE SEEMS ALSO TO HAVE MENTIONED FOOD. RRC CONFIRMED THIS MORNING THAT GDR HAS OFFERED ONE OR MORE '1255' TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT. (ANY INFORMATION ABOUT NATURE OF AID BEING SUPPLIED FROM POSTS CONCERNED WOULD BE VERY WELCOME.)

2. THESE NEW RESOURCES, IF BULGARIAN'S INFORMATION PROVES CORRECT, ARE OF COURSE WELCOME IN HUMANITARIAN TERMS. POLITICALLY, THEY WILL BLUNT GROWING IMPACT OF THE IMPLIED POLITICAL POINT MADE BY RECENT LARGE-SCALE WESTERN AID. WE MAY ALSO ENCOUNTER ADDED ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS OVER OUR OWN AID EFFORT IF, AS MUST BE LIKELY, EASTERN EUROPEANS GET AUTOMATIC PRIORITY IN ALREADY OVERLOADED ETHIOPIAN MACHINE.

BARDER  
 BT

Mr. Hout 13938 ✓

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1159 Refs.

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 TO FLASH FCO  
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 311 OF 30 OCTOBER  
 INFO IMMEDIATE ODA, MODUK  
 INFO PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, BONN, NAIROBI (FOR EADD)  
 INFO ROUTINE OTHER EC POSTS

1128 YOUR TELNO 260: ETHIOPIA RELIEF: RAF ASSISTANCE.

1. ACTION TAKEN WITH ACTING RR COMMISSIONER, COL HABTE-MARIAM AYENACHEW, AND MFA. HABTE-MARIAM EXPRESSED GREAT SATISFACTION AND GRATITUDE. I AM ALSO INFORMING FOREIGN MINISTER AND CHAIRMAN OF RRC EMERGENCY AIRLIFT COORDINATING COMMITTEE.

BARDER

*Phon EWA 57/584/01*  
*[Signature]*  
 31.10.84

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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 PS/MR RAISON  
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 MR FERGUSSON  
 MR JOHNSON  
 SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

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| MR BUIST        | ) |            |
| <u>EWAD</u>     | ) | <u>ODA</u> |
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PP ROME  
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PP NAIROBI (PSE PASS EADD)  
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UNCLASSIFIED

FM FCO 302010Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 266 OF 30 OCTOBER

AND TO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS, UKMIS NEW YORK, UKMIS GENEVA,  
INFO PRIORITY OTHER EC POSTS MOGADISHU, KHARTOUM, NAIROBI (PSE  
PASS EADD)

ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT ON ETHIOPIA MADE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON  
30 OCTOBER 1984 BY THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, MR  
TIMOTHY RAISON.

THE HOUSE KNOWS OF THE VERY DEEP CONCERN FELT THROUGHOUT THE  
COUNTRY AT THE EFFECTS OF FAMINE IN ETHIOPIA AND INDEED IN OTHER  
COUNTRIES. LAST WEDNESDAY MY RT HON AND LEARNED FRIEND, THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, ANNOUNCED  
THREE IMPORTANT FURTHER MEASURES DESIGNED TO HELP TACKLE THE  
PROBLEM. THESE FOLLOW THE SUBSTANTIAL STEPS THAT WE, AND THE  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, WERE ALREADY TAKING, EMBRACING ALMOST PDS STG  
10M FROM THE BRITISH AID PROGRAMME IN THE LAST 18 MONTHS,  
INCLUDING OUR SHARE OF OVER PDS STG 24M FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.  
THE NEW MEASURES WERE FIRST THE DESPATCH BY THE UK OF A FURTHER  
6,000 TONS OF FOOD AID: SECOND THE ALLOCATION OF A FURTHER PDS STG  
5M FOR SPENDING ON FAMINE RELIEF IN ETHIOPIA AND OTHER AFRICAN  
COUNTRIES: AND THIRD A PLEDGE TO PRESS THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY FOR  
ADDITIONAL ACTION. THE HOUSE WILL WISH ME TO REPORT ON THE ACTIONS  
WE HAVE PUT IN HAND. ON SATURDAY NIGHT MY NOBLE FRIEND THE  
PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE, LORD TREFGARNE  
AND I, MET IN LONDON COMMISSIONER DAWIT, HEAD OF THE ETHIOPIAN  
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION. I INFORMED HIM OF THE

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ADDITIONAL 6,000 TONS OF GRAIN WHICH WILL BE SHIPPED WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. WE DISCUSSED WAYS OF SPEEDING UP THE TRANSPORT AND DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLIES THROUGH THE PORT. I AGREED THAT WE SHOULD DRAW ON OUR PDS STG 5M OFFER TO PROVIDE DUMP TRUCKS TO HELP WITH UNLOADING AT THE PORT OF ASSAB, AND LAND ROVERS AND SPARE PARTS FOR THEM TO HELP WITH DISTRIBUTION. I ALSO AGREED TO SUPPLY WATER-DRILLING RIGS AND MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS. IN ADDITION, WE TOLD HIM OF OUR OFFER OF A ROYAL AIR FORCE DETACHMENT OF TWO HERCULES AND THE APPROPRIATE SUPPORT TO UNDERTAKE INTERNAL RELIEF OPERATIONS WITHIN THE FAMINE AREAS. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT THIS OFFER BUT I CAN TELL THE HOUSE THAT IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT WE WILL MAKE THE DETACHMENT AVAILABLE FOR THREE MONTHS. THE INITIAL DEPLOYMENT WILL INVOLVE SEVERAL ADDITIONAL FLIGHTS TO ETHIOPIA TO ENSURE THAT OUR DETACHMENT IS SELF-SUFFICIENT AND FULLY EQUIPPED FOR THE TASK. SO FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED THE FIRST TWO AIRCRAFT ARE READY TO LEAVE TOMORROW. TWO ROYAL AIR FORCE OFFICERS HAVE NOW ARRIVED IN ADDIS ABABA TO DISCUSS URGENTLY THE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS. I AM SURE THESE AIRCRAFT WILL MAKE A VERY VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO DISTRIBUTING FOOD WHERE IT IS MOST NEEDED. I HAVE ALSO AGREED TO MAKE AVAILABLE TWO FURTHER CIVIL AIRCRAFT, ONE OF THEM A HERCULES, TO SUPPORT THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WHO ARE DOING SUCH A FINE JOB IN ETHIOPIA. BOTH WILL TAKE OUR RELIEF SUPPLIES AND THE HERCULES WILL STAY IN ETHIOPIA FOR SOME WEEKS FOR USE BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS. WE ARE ALSO PAYING FOR SOME OF THE SUPPLIES NEEDED. I HAD THIS MORNING A CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION OF PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION WITH THE DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE LED BY LORD HUNT. ALL THIS REPRESENTS A VERY SIGNIFICANT BRITISH CONTRIBUTION. IN ADDITION THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY IS TAKING VALUABLE ACTION. SO FAR THIS YEAR THE EC HAS ALREADY MADE DIRECT ALLOCATIONS OF 53,000 TONS OF CEREALS AND 3,000 TONS OF OTHER PRODUCTS TO ETHIOPIA. BUT THE NEEDS OF ETHIOPIA ARE SO GREAT THAT WE HAVE PRESSED THE COMMUNITY TO DO MORE. FOLLOWING MY RIGHT HON FRIEND, THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO DR FITZGERALD, PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL, THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED, AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IS TO CONSIDER TODAY, A SPECIAL PROGRAMME OF FOOD AND TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE WORTH PDS STG 20M OF WHICH THE

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BRITISH SHARE WOULD BE ABOUT PDS STG 4.5M. THE NEEDS OF ETHIOPIA AND OTHER PARTS OF DROUGHT STRICKEN AFRICA WILL BE FURTHER DISCUSSED BY COMMUNITY FOREIGN MINISTERS IN IRELAND AT THE END OF THE WEEK, AND BY THE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WHICH I SHALL ATTEND IN BRUSSELS NEXT TUESDAY. WE HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS. THE COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES, THE SUPERVISORY BODY OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME IS CURRENTLY MEETING IN ROME. ON A BRITISH INITIATIVE, HE MEETING IS GIVING PRIORITY TO THE NEEDS OF ETHIOPIA. AT THE SAME TIME, OTHER WESTERN DONORS HAVE OFFERED INCREASED ASSISTANCE. THE GRAVE PROBLEM OF DROUGHT IN ETHIOPIA AND OTHER PARTS OF AFRICA CANNOT BE SOLVED OVERNIGHT BY ONE MASSIVE AIRLIFT. BUT THE MEASURES WE HAVE ANNOUNCED ARE VERY VALUABLE IN THEMSELVES AND HAVE GIVEN AN IMPORTANT LEAD.

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SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

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TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY 310600Z ADDIS ABABA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 265 OF 30 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, UKMIS GENEVA

RAF HERCULES OPERATIONS: CURRENT PLANNING

1. MOD ARE NOW PLANNING ON BASIS THAT THREE HERCULES AIRCRAFT WILL DEPART UK LATE TOMORROW EVENING (31 OCTOBER) FOR AKROTIRI AND WILL ARRIVE ADDIS EARLY A.M. ON FRIDAY 2 NOVEMBER. ONE OF THE THREE AIRCRAFT WILL RETURN WITHIN 24 HOURS AND ONE OF THE TWO TO BE USED WITHIN ETHIOPIA WILL BE DEPLOYED TO ASSAB WITHIN 24 HOURS.

3. 24 HOURS AFTER FIRST THREE AIRCRAFT LEAVE UK, A FURTHER FOUR HERCULES WILL BE DESPATCHED BRINGING ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES. ONE OF THESE WILL HAVE A GOOD DEAL OF SPACE AVAILABLE FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES (MOD ARE DISCUSSING WITH ODA WHAT SHOULD BE BROUGHT).

4. MOD ARE RESERVING FIVE SEATS FOR THE PRESS IN ONE OF THE AIRCRAFT DEPARTING ON 31 OCTOBER.

5. ALL THE ABOVE IS SUBECT TO YOUR CONFIRMATION THAT THIS TIMESCALE IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE ETHIOPIANS AND THAT YOU AND MORLEY SEE NO OPERATIONAL OBECTIONS. WE SHALL OF COURSE NEED TO BE CERTAIN THAT THE PERSONNEL ON THE AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING THE PRESS, WILL BE ALLOWED IN.

5. YOU ARE NO DOUBT CONSIDERING WITH MORLEY THE PROBLEM OF ACCOMMODATION.

6. MOD'S TRANS OPS SIGNAL, WHICH INCLUDES DETAILS OF NUMBERS OF PERSONNEL AND TYPES OF GOODS CARRIED, IS BEING REPEATED TO YOU.

7. WE SHOULD ALSO BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR URGENT ADVICE REGARDING THE CARRIAGE OF WEAPONS. MOD INTEND THAT THE STORES SHOULD

*PBm EWA 57/534/01*  
*2/11/84*

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INCLUDE:

- (A) SIX PISTOLS (BOXED) FOR RAF GUARDS WHO WOULD REMAIN WITHIN AIRCRAFT,
- (B) SMALL ARMS FOR NINE MEMBERS OF RAF REGIMENT, WHO WOULD PROBABLY BE DEPLOYED TO ASSAB,
- (C) PISTOLS (BOXED) FOR AIR CREW IF THEY WERE REQUIRED TO FLY OVER REBEL-HELD TERRITORY. ARE THE ETHIOPIANS LIKELY TO OBJECT TO ANY OR ALL OF THE ABOVE? MOD'S INTENTION IS TO BRING MINIMUM NECESSARY TO DEAL WITH PILFERERS AND ENSURE SAFETY OF AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL OUTSIDE ADDIS ABABA.

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ETHIOPIAN DROUGHT

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PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/MR RAISON  
PS/PUS  
MR FERGUSSON  
MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )  
EWAD )  
ECD ) ODA  
DU )  
MR R BROWNING )  
MR H ARBUTHNOTT )

DS8 )  
DS11 )  
D OF OPS(AS) ) MOD  
DCS (ROW) )

IA - 1B DEPT of TRANSPORT

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John Leslie  
7/11/84.

EWA 57/534/01.



EXTRACTS FROM:

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
OFFICIAL REPORT



# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

Tuesday 30 October 1984

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LONDON  
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE  
£1.50 net

committee on nutrition education (JACNE) of the British Nutrition Foundation and the Health Education Council has been asked to translate the scientific advice contained in the report into practical dietary guidance, in the first instance for the public. The application of this guidance to schools, in terms of classroom material and in other ways, is under consideration.

Discussions are taking place between Government Departments and the food industry on the fat content labelling of food, in an informal working group which was set up before the report was published. The various sectors of the food industry are also being asked to consider the possibilities for the reformulation of foods so as to reduce fat and salt content. Ways of encouraging the production of leaner carcasses in sheep, cattle and pigs are also under consideration.

The report's recommendations for changes in the common agricultural policy will be borne in mind in our negotiations with our European partners. The Department of Health is considering how best to take forward the report's recommendations about those at increased risk of cardiovascular disease and research into simpler and cheaper methods of measuring blood lipids.

#### De Lorean Motor Cars Ltd.

**Mr. Latham** asked the Prime Minister whether any of the public officials closely involved in the monitoring of expenditure of De Lorean Motor Cars Ltd. are still responsible for approving finance for industrial projects in Northern Ireland; and whether she will make a statement.

**The Prime Minister:** I understand that of the officials closely involved in the monitoring of De Lorean Motor Cars Ltd. between 1978 and 1982, two currently have a responsibility for approving finance for industrial projects in Northern Ireland. I have nothing to add to the Department of Finance and Personnel memorandum of 24 October 1984 on the 25th report from the Committee of Public Accounts. (Cmnd. 9374)

**Mr. Latham** asked the Prime Minister how many civil servants or other public officials have been (a) reprimanded, (b) retired on grounds of limited efficiency or (c) otherwise disciplined as a result of the failure of De Lorean Motor Cars Ltd.; and whether she will make a statement.

**The Prime Minister:** None. I have nothing to add to the Department of Finance and Personnel memorandum of 24 October 1984 on the 25th report from the Committee of Public Accounts. (Cmnd. 9374)

#### Ethiopia

**Mr. Parry** asked the Prime Minister what recent representations she has received concerning the famine in Ethiopia; and if she will make a statement.

**The Prime Minister:** I have received approximately 2,500 such representations. My right hon. Friend the Minister for Overseas Development made a statement to the House on this matter earlier today.

### HOME DEPARTMENT

#### Child Prostitution

**Mr. Greenway** asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he is satisfied with the effectiveness

of the law relating to child prostitution; what surveys or other evidence is available to him on this subject; and if he will make a statement.

**Mr. Mellor:** We have not set up any special study of child prostitution, but have taken note of published material on the subject from other sources.

The Criminal Law Revision Committee, with the assistance of a policy advisory committee including members from the police and from the medical, teaching and social work professions, has been engaged on a comprehensive review of the law relating to prostitution, and has received evidence from a wide range of bodies, of which the CLRC's report, now in course of preparation, will no doubt take full account. In its report on sexual offences, published in April, the CLRC recommended increased penalties for certain sexual offences involving children.

Subject to consideration of the CLRC's recommendations, we believe that the existing law relating to child prostitution is generally adequate. It includes provisions prohibiting the procurement of a girl under the age of 21 for the purpose of unlawful sexual intercourse in any part of the world with a third person, and prohibiting sexual intercourse with those below the age of consent, and the exploitation of children for the purposes of pornography. There are inevitably difficulties in enforcing the law where the children are themselves unwilling or unable to seek the protection of the police or other social agencies.

#### Prison Rules

**Mr. Kilroy-Silk** asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department what is the timetable for the revision of the prison rules announced in the debate on prison education on 4 July.

**Mr. Mellor:** The revision of the prison rules represents a very substantial task and we are not able to make a more precise commitment about it at the moment.

#### Police Officers (Identification)

**Mr. Deakins** asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department what guidance has been given to chief constables regarding the covering by police officers of the personal identifications on their uniforms; if he will call for reports from each chief constable as to the circumstances and extent to which uniformed officers have operated without such identification during the current miners' dispute; and if he will make a statement.

**Mr. Giles Shaw:** It is the policy of the Department and the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) that means of personal identification should be worn by uniformed officers whenever they are on duty, including public order duty. ACPO has recently written to all chief constables reminding them of the association's policy and my right hon. and learned Friend has asked HM inspectors of constabulary to pay special attention to this matter in the course of their annual inspections.

#### Television Licensing Records (Personal Information)

**Mr. Cohen** asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department for what purpose his Department receives personal information from the television licensing records from the computer system of the Broadcasting Receiving

**Mr. Raison:** In accordance with the normal procedure for the negotiation of contracts financed under the European development fund, member states of the Community have not been party to negotiations about the supply of new aircraft to Leeward Islands Air Transport. The respective merits of a number of European aircraft were examined during discussions between LIAT and three European aircraft manufacturers at which the European Commission was represented by an independent European consultant.

I have discussed this with the Development Commissioner, M. Pisani. He is well aware that the United Kingdom expects the procurement rules laid down in the Lomé convention to be fully and fairly applied in this case and my officials have been in close contact with Commissioner Pisani's staff. I understand negotiations between the Commission and the recipient states are continuing.

### Ethiopia

**Mr. Kilroy-Silk** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs if the aid currently being given to Ethiopia is taken from the aid budget or is in addition to it.

**Mr. Raison:** the aid currently being given to Ethiopia is taken from the aid budget. The additional contribution announced recently is from a contingency reserve within the aid budget.

### Eastern Caribbean (Regional Security)

**Mr. Neale** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what measures he is taking to assist the small States of the Eastern Caribbean in their efforts to improve coastguard facilities as part of their regional security arrangements.

**Mr. Raison:** I am today making an offer to the Governments of six eastern Caribbean states, in principle, to finance on grant terms, at a total estimated cost of £1.2 million, the construction of shore facilities for their coastguard vessels. This assistance will be additional to development aid pledged to these countries under existing agreements.

## ATTORNEY-GENERAL

### Children (Fire Deaths)

**Mr. Beith** asked the Attorney-General how many prosecutions have been undertaken in recent years in respect of deaths in house fires of children left unattended.

**Mr. Mellor:** I have been asked to reply.

The information collected centrally does not enable details to be provided in the form requested. However, the information relating to proceedings for homicide in England and Wales shows no proceedings in 1982 and one in 1983 where the victim died of burning and was under the age of 17; information on whether the death was caused by negligently leaving the child unattended in a house is not readily available.

## NORTHERN IRELAND

### Small Businesses

**Mrs. Rumbold** asked the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland what measures his Department has taken to encourage the setting up of small businesses in the period since October 1983.

**Dr. Boyson:** The Department of Economic Development has continued to support the work of the Local Enterprise Development Unit, which was established in 1971 to provide comprehensive support for small businesses in Northern Ireland. In the last financial year the unit promoted a record number of 3,658 jobs, and this success has continued in the present financial year. In addition the unit has increased and re-organised its staff to deal with its growing work load. Moreover, in November 1983 it launched a local enterprise programme, to stimulate local enterprise by assisting local enterprise agencies to provide workshops and support for new small business ventures.

### Reading Material (Departmental Expenditure)

**Mr. Hayes** asked the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how much his Department spent in 1983-84 on the purchase of newspapers, periodicals, books and other published reading material.

**Dr. Boyson:** This information is not separately available for each category and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost. Figures for total expenditure for the Northern Ireland Office and Northern Ireland Departments are as follows:

|                                          | £       |
|------------------------------------------|---------|
| Northern Ireland Office                  | 66,031  |
| Department of Finance and Personnel      | 76,340  |
| Department of the Environment            | 96,192  |
| Department of Economic Development       | 51,047  |
| Department of Agriculture                | 63,410  |
| Department of Education                  | 15,277  |
| Department of Health and Social Services | 108,173 |

### Residential Children's Homes

**Mr. Soley** asked the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how many staff have been dismissed or suspended from residential children's homes in Northern Ireland due to allegations of misconduct since 1979; and how many have been reinstated.

**Mr. Chris Patten:** Twenty-two, 13 of which were the subject of allegations of misconduct specifically against children in the care of staff. Five have been reinstated.

### Elderly Persons (Employment)

**Mr. Hirst** asked the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (1) how many women in the public sector and local government in Northern Ireland are working either part-time or full-time beyond the age of 60 years;

(2) how many men in the public sector and local government in Northern Ireland are working either part-time or full-time beyond the age of 65 years.

**Dr. Boyson:** The information requested is not readily available, and could be provided only at disproportionate cost.

that if they now had a ballot the majority would wish to go back. The hon. Gentleman referred to the cost of the strike. The miners have already lost £500 million in wages, 19 coal faces have already been lost and 79 are causing concern. Much investment has also been lost. We Conservatives wish that many of the striking miners would go back to work, where they will get excellent pay and where they have a guarantee of jobs in the future or the best voluntary redundancy ever offered. The money is there to be taken. Will not the hon. Gentleman urge them to go back to work, or does the Labour party prefer people to be on strike and to encourage them to be in poverty?

**Mr. Maclean:** Has my right hon. Friend thought about asking her right hon. and learned Friend the Home Secretary to ask the Metropolitan police to initiate an investigation into the sinister links between the NUM and Colonel Gaddafi, to establish what the nature of those links are?

**The Prime Minister:** I believe that the overwhelming majority of the country was shocked at the NUM's attempt to go to Libya to seek funds.

**Mr. Skinner:** What about your husband's companies?

**The Prime Minister:** That does not include the hon. Gentleman, but I believe that the majority of the country was shocked that part of the NUM should go to Colonel Gaddafi, who allowed his embassy to be used for murder on London's streets. That is shocking.

**Q4. Sir John Biggs-Davison** asked the Prime Minister if she will list her official engagements for Tuesday 30 October.

**The Prime Minister:** I refer my hon. Friend to the reply that I gave some moments ago.

**Sir John Biggs-Davison:** While applauding the efforts and lead of the Government, the RAF and the charitable organisations, in relieving famine in Ethiopia, may I ask whether the Government will seek joint measures and machinery with our European and Commonwealth partners, as well as the United States, for a better disposal of food surpluses?

**The Prime Minister:** I am grateful to my hon. Friend. The fact that we were fairly quick off the mark, got a good deal of aid to Ethiopia announced and were able to approach Garret Fitzgerald in his capacity as President of the Community, helped with the speed of relief. However, it would have been slightly faster in relation to the aircraft had we been able to obtain visas for two of our RAF personnel to go to Ethiopia immediately. We might then have been able to get aircraft there to help with distribution from a ship which is carrying huge amounts of grain. We shall do all that we can to co-operate so that the maximum amount of aid can be distributed.

**Mr. D. E. Thomas:** Will the Prime Minister take this opportunity to respond to the serious statements made by Dr. Charles Elliott this week that the Government have been slow in releasing funds to the regime in Ethiopia, for ideological reasons?

**The Prime Minister:** The Government have not been slow in releasing funds. Over the past two years British aid to Ethiopia has been worth more than £13 million, including our share of European Community support. In addition, this July we cancelled Ethiopia's debts to Britain which were worth more than £2.5 million. As well as giving ourselves, we have been giving through the European Community, which in the last two years has also given about £22 million.

Food shipments from Britain are arriving. A total of 14,000 tonnes reached Assab yesterday. The main problem is internal distribution. As the hon. Gentleman will be aware, lavish expenditure of about £200 million on the tenth anniversary celebrations of Ethiopia's Socialist revolution hardly helps.

**Mr. Skinner:** In view of all the talk about Libyan blood money, and to remove any charge of hypocrisy, will the Prime Minister issue instructions that all those firms that have donated money to the Tory party and have had contracts with Libya should have the money sent back because she does not want the Tory party to be tainted with it? Will she tell the House directly that during the period that she has been Prime Minister none of the companies with which her husband has been associated have had any trading links with Libya whatsoever?

**The Prime Minister:** The NUM's leadership went to a Government which had used its embassy for murder on London streets. If the hon. Gentleman does not recognise the difference between that and trading arrangements then nothing will teach him. Hon. Members will have seen today's *Daily Mirror* in which Mr. Windsor is reported as having said to Colonel Gaddafi:

"We need all the money that you can send us through the Libyan trade unions."

He apparently received the reply

"We shall make sure that the money is sent to you into a foreign bank account."

**Mr. Allen McKay** (Barnsley, West and Penistone): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Since the Prime Minister has failed completely to say whether she and the Government have confidence in the chairman of the Coal Board, will you consider—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I hope that hon. Members will not raise points of order designed to prolong Prime Minister's Question Time. That is not a point of order.

## Ethiopia

3.32 pm

**The Minister for Overseas Development (Mr. Timothy Raison):** With permission, Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a statement.

The House knows of the very deep concern felt throughout the country at the effects of famine in Ethiopia—and indeed in other countries. Last Wednesday my right hon. and learned Friend the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs announced three important further measures designed to help tackle the problem. These follow the substantial steps that we and the European Community were already taking, embracing almost £10 million from the British aid programme in the last eighteen months, including our share of over £24 million from the European Community.

The new measures were, first, the dispatch by the United Kingdom of a further 6,000 tonnes of food aid; secondly, the allocation of a further £5 million for spending on famine relief in Ethiopia and other African countries; and thirdly, a pledge to press the European Community for additional action.

The House will wish me to report on the action that we have put in hand. On Saturday night, my noble Friend the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Defence, Lord Trefgarne, and I met in London Commissioner Dawit, Head of the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission.

I informed him of the additional 6,000 tonnes of grain, which will be shipped within the next few days. We discussed ways of speeding up the transport and distribution of supplies through the port. I agreed that we should draw on our £5 million offer to provide dump trucks to help with unloading at the port of Assab and Landrovers and spare parts for them to help with distribution. I also agreed to supply water drilling rigs and medical requirements.

In addition, we told him of our offer of a Royal Air Force detachment of two Hercules and the appropriate support to undertake internal relief operations within the famine areas. There was some discussion about this offer, but I can tell the House that it has been agreed that we will make the detachment available for three months. The initial deployment will involve several additional flights to Ethiopia to ensure that our detachment is self-sufficient and fully equipped for the task. So far as we are concerned, the first two aircraft are ready to leave tomorrow. Two RAF officers have now arrived in Addis Ababa to discuss urgently the practical arrangements. I am sure that those aircraft will make a valuable contribution to distributing food where it is most needed.

I have also agreed to make available two further civil aircraft—one of them a Hercules—to support the voluntary agencies which are doing such a fine job in Ethiopia. Both will take our relief supplies and the Hercules will stay in Ethiopia for some weeks for use by the international committee of the Red Cross. We are also paying for some of the supplies needed. I had this morning a constructive discussion of priorities and implementation with the Disasters Emergency Committee led by Lord Hunt. All that represents a significant British contribution. In addition, the European Community is taking valuable action.

So far this year the European Community has already made direct allocations of 53,000 tonnes of cereals and 3,000 tonnes of other products to Ethiopia. But the needs of Ethiopia are so great that we have pressed the Community to do more. Following my right hon. Friend the Prime Minister's message to Dr. Fitzgerald, President of the European Council, the Council's budget committee has approved, and the European Parliament is to consider today, a special programme of food and transport assistance worth £20 million, of which the British share would be about £4.5 million.

The needs of Ethiopia and other parts of drought-stricken Africa will be further discussed by Community Foreign Ministers in Ireland at the end of the week and by the Development Council—which I shall attend—in Brussels next Tuesday.

We have been active in other international organisations. The Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, the supervisory body of the World Food Programme, is currently meeting in Rome. On a British initiative the meeting is giving priority to the needs of Ethiopia. At the same time, other western donors have offered increased assistance.

The grave problem of drought in Ethiopia and other parts of Africa cannot be solved overnight or by one massive airlift. But the measures that we have announced are very valuable in themselves and have given an important lead.

**Mr. George Robertson (Hamilton):** The House is glad to hear of the Government's action to assist in the Ethiopian famine. All hon. Members believe that the images of the starving victims of the drought, which have electrified the British people into dramatic and spontaneous generosity in the past few days, matter much more than prodigal debate here. Therefore, we warmly welcome the Government's response so far in increasing both the emergency aid and, in the time available, the Hercules transport and other logistic support. However, are the Government satisfied that their aid response is yet sufficient and appropriate? Is it not still small compared with both the need and the relative generosity of countries such as Sweden and Holland?

Does the Minister agree with the British ambassador in Addis Ababa that long-term help is necessary if the same crisis is not to be repeated year after year? Is he satisfied that the aid offered—both the food on its way and that promised—will get through to the starving people, including the majority who are in rebel-held areas in Ethiopia?

**Mr. Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield):** How can my right hon. Friend guarantee that?

**Mr. Robertson:** Will the right hon. Gentleman arrange for the Hercules planes to take the food and logistic equipment, which I am glad to notice he mentioned, through Djibouti and Sudan, for instance, in order to get it to the people who need it?

What is the Government's response to War on Want's proposal for an independent commission to negotiate on the spot effective action—a proposal which so far has had the support of both Willy Brandt and Pierre Trudeau? Will the Government give that proposal their support too?

Will the Prime Minister and the Government bear in mind the fact that Ethiopia happens to be in today's

headlines and on today's television screens, but that other people are starving too in famines in Chad, the Sudan and elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa?

Will they be remembered when the publicity dies away? The famine has alerted many people throughout the world to the dreadful imbalance of life and wealth in the world. We all feel the message in a letter that I received today from an 11-year-old constituent. She wrote:

"Some people have diseases and some people die of starvation. I feel as if it was me who caused that because of all the food I get in one day. I would give them all the food I get but I can't because I don't stay there. Can you help the situation?"

We can help the situation and the Government must help it. The whole House will give them full support and assistance when they do that.

**Mr. Raison:** I am grateful to the hon. Gentleman for his response. I entirely agree with what he said about the profound sense of involvement of people throughout the country. He asked whether what we are doing is enough. I believe that our effort has been substantial and that our new measures make it extremely important. I also believe that the lead that we have given in the past few days has had a considerable impact in encouraging other donors to step up their efforts considerably. We shall of course continue to keep the problem under the closest review and take further steps as we feel them to be necessary.

The hon. Gentleman asked whether the aid will get through, especially to rebel-held areas. In the past few years, many people have asked whether aid is getting through in Ethiopia. Many bodies, especially the European Commission, have been involved in trying to check whether it gets through. I believe that the great bulk of it reaches the destination for which it is intended. As the House knows, our work in rebel-held areas is done essentially through the medium of the voluntary agencies. I have talked to them and they are satisfied that they are literally able to deliver the goods.

The hon. Gentleman asked whether the Hercules might take food through Djibouti and Sudan. I am not sure whether they might go through Djibouti. Two Royal Air Force officers are out there at the moment establishing the most effective way of delivering food to Ethiopia. The voluntary agencies are operating in other areas. We shall ensure that the food and resources that we make available to them reach their destination.

The hon. Gentleman asked about a proposal advanced by War on Want for an independent commission. I understand War on Want's anxiety, but believe that in present circumstances it is better to use existing mechanisms rather than to think that the response to the crisis is to set up a new body. The hon. Gentleman properly reminded the House that Ethiopia is not alone in suffering and mentioned other countries. I have recently authorised relief for Chad. We are well aware that there are other parts of the world in which we might face substantial problems. I assure the House that I shall do all that I can, within the limit of what we can provide, to give the most effective assistance possible.

**Sir Bernard Braine** (Castle Point): May I express satisfaction at the Government's swift response to an appalling and pressing need at the diplomatic success in difficult circumstances in securing the co-operation of the Ethiopian authorities and at the decision to reinforce the splendid charities in famine areas as my right hon. Friend

outlined? Might not the problem get worse rather than better in the year ahead? Will the Government direct their attention to the possibility of calling the international community together to consider a longer-term strategy to deal with famine, not merely in Ethiopia but in many other parts of the world and, above all, devising an early warning system, which was lacking in this case?

**Mr. Raison:** Again, I am grateful to my hon. Friend for his kind words. It is difficult to give categorical answers about whether the problem will get worse or better. The important thing is that we get on with the immediate relief job. Long-term issues of development and how to prevent such problems recurring, as they have repeatedly done in the past, will have to be faced. The House will understand what my hon. Friend has said about the international community working together. We have the World Food Programme and there are other bodies in Rome which operate on the same basis. I am not sure whether new bodies are the right answer. It is vital that the existing international forums should tackle the problem, which is one of enormous scope and gravity.

**Mr. Roy Jenkins** (Glasgow, Hillhead): Will the Minister give an undertaking that as much grain as he believes can be distributed effectively will be made available from United Kingdom and European surplus stocks, and that budgetary restraints will not be allowed to prevent this?

**Mr. Raison:** We are determined to make use of the reserves and the stores which the right hon. Gentleman has rightly mentioned. It will be our task at the Development Council meeting in a few days' time, and in the other Community councils, to ensure that we do all that we can to meet this terrible problem.

**Mr. Michael Latham** (Rutland and Melton): Will my right hon. Friend give an assurance that he will do everything possible to tackle the Brussels red tape when dealing with this matter? Nothing is more offensive to our constituents than the nightly sight on their television screens of barns full of grain while millions starve.

**Mr. Raison:** I well understand the feeling which has been relayed by my hon. Friend. However, if it were not for the grain surpluses, the so-called grain mountains, our ability to get hold of food in the short term would be much more difficult.

**Dame Judith Hart** (Clydesdale): While one appreciates what the Government are now doing, does the Minister agree that it might have been better if there had been a reaction several weeks ago, when everything was known about the forthcoming famine in Ethiopia, rather than waiting for television programmes and public pressure?

The Minister has had something to say about his discussions with the voluntary agencies this morning. There is a real problem, as my hon. Friend the Member for Hamilton (Mr. Robertson) has mentioned, of delivery to the rebel areas in Ethiopia. How much of the transport and food aid that we are now providing will go directly through Addis Ababa, or possibly Djibouti, for distribution in the Government-held areas? How much is the Minister proposing to allocate to the voluntary agencies which, as he says, are the most effective bodies to distribute supplies in the Eritrean and Tigré areas, which are rebel-held? Lastly, will he undertake to report to the

[*Dame Judith Hart*]

House on what development assistance he proposes to make available for agriculture and education assistance to sub-Saharan Africa for the sake of future prevention of famine?

**Mr. Raison:** The right hon. Lady has asked me why we did not react earlier. She knows that we have been reacting for a considerable time, and I have given the relevant figures. A shipment would not have arrived in Assab yesterday, which takes a bit of time to arrange, unless it had been dispatched well before recent television programmes. We have been reacting and we shall continue to react.

The right hon. Lady knows that the allocation of food to rebel-held areas is a sensitive matter. There is enormous need to be met in the rebel areas. We are working closely with the voluntary agencies that are operating in the areas. I shall ensure that they receive a substantial slice of our resources but I cannot give an exact figure. I have no intention of forgetting that a great measure of the starvation exists in rebel areas.

I shall be happy to respond to the House on the longer-term issue of development assistance. The House will have a chance to raise the matter on other occasions and I shall do all that I can to meet its requests for a debate.

**Mr. Charles Morrison** (Devizes): The Government are to be warmly congratulated on the manner on which they have responded to the crisis. My right hon. Friend is correct to emphasise that the problem will not be solved overnight. Will he say specifically whether the Government are proposing to give any assistance in the construction of wells, which may help in the short term? To take the point of the right hon. Member for Clydesdale (Dame J. Hart) a little further, and given the fact that the scale of the disaster is infinitely worse because of the enormous population expansion in Africa, will the Government undertake to consider once again the assistance that they are giving towards population control?

**Mr. Raison:** On the point about water, I said in my statement that drilling rigs were one form of supply that we were sending out. We all recognise that that is of great importance. I agree with my hon. Friend that there is no doubt that one of Africa's major problems is the rapid expansion of population in some parts of the continent. My Department will certainly contribute in efforts to bring that expansion under control.

**Mr. David Steel** (Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale): I thank the Minister for his positive statement and for what he is now doing. I shall pursue previous questions, in view of the Minister's last statement that this problem cannot be solved overnight. Does the right hon. Gentleman recall that during his last Question Time before the summer recess, he rejected a suggestion by my hon. Friend the Member for Roxburgh and Berwickshire (Mr. Kirkwood) that he should visit the area during the summer recess? Does the Minister accept that what has really outraged public opinion is the knowledge that massive grain surpluses were sitting uselessly in Europe throughout the summer while the position was worsening? It was only a television programme that prodded the European Governments into action. Why did they not act sooner?

**Mr. Raison:** It really is not true that we have been doing nothing to provide grain surpluses to the area. The

European Community has a good record in providing food from those surpluses to Ethiopia and other parts of the world. I am not, of course, saying that what has been provided is sufficient. We must press on with that provision. Well before last week's television programmes — I do not deny that they were important — the Community was heavily involved in the business of shipping grain to Ethiopia. Ethiopia is the largest single recipient of aid under the Lomé convention. I shall visit Ethiopia if that seems appropriate and necessary. I do not wish to do so in a spirit of gimmickry, but if my visit serves a purpose I shall visit Ethiopia.

**Several Hon. Members rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I remind the House that an important debate will follow in which more than 40 right hon. and hon. Members seek to take part. I shall allow questions on this important matter to continue until 4 pm, when we shall consider the ten-minute Bill.

**Mr. Robert Rhodes James** (Cambridge): Is my right hon. Friend aware that the performance of the British voluntary organisations in Ethiopia — my right hon. Friend knows my connection with the Save the Children Fund — has been beyond all praise and has been going on for years, not just a few recent weeks? None of that assistance would have been possible without the strong support given by the Government and volunteers amounting to about £30 million spent in Ethiopia alone and 40,000 tonnes of grain sent to Ethiopia. Although it is important to look at the current crisis and the Government's response, which has been admirable, surely after this tragedy has been resolved, or at least alleviated, we can look again at the long-term problems of how to resolve the problems and assist in areas of the world that are affected in such ways.

**Mr. Raison:** I am grateful to my hon. Friend for what he says about the Government's contribution. I am happy to endorse what he said about the magnificent work done by the voluntary agencies. There can be no doubt that they are doing a tremendous job.

We shall, of course, have to cast our attention to the long term. It is difficult to work with Ethiopia — nobody can doubt that. There are many problems, and they have affected our policy towards that country. As I said, I think that everyone is aware that something is happening in Africa as a whole. We must find an adequate response to what is occurring and that is what my Department will do.

**Mr. Max Madden** (Bradford, West): In tackling starvation and malnutrition, does the Minister understand that the overwhelming majority of the British people would like to see the mobilisation of political will and resources that we saw in the defence of the Falklands? Does the right hon. Gentleman understand that the overwhelming majority of the British people would like the £3 million a day that we are spending on the Falklands to be diverted towards combating starvation and malnutrition? Does the right hon. Gentleman understand that the overwhelming majority of the British people would like the British Government to declare war on poverty and to mobilise the resources that are necessary to combat it effectively?

**Mr. Raison:** I believe, of course, that what we are doing in the Falklands is essential. However, I can see similarities between the spirit shown by our people,

perhaps particularly in the voluntary sector and their sense of deep involvement in and commitment to the problem, and the way in which people threw themselves into support of our policy on the Falklands.

**Mr. Norman Buchan** (Paisley, South): Do it now.

**Mr. Raison:** They show that this country contains the skill, enthusiasm and human understanding that are vital if the problem is to be tackled effectively.

**Mr. Tony Baldry** (Banbury): Is my right hon. Friend now satisfied that the food pledges from the international community as a whole will meet the estimated need of some 60,000 tonnes of grain for Ethiopia for each month between now and next year's harvest? Of course, Ethiopia is not alone—Sudan, Chad, Somalia and other African countries face famine and food shortages. Is not it time to run a sustained and co-ordinated campaign in order to assist agriculture in Africa and thus enable those countries to grow food with which to tackle hunger?

**Mr. Raison:** I do not think that we can possibly say that we have yet got enough food committed to solving the problem. However, there has been a substantial international response and we are making very good progress in that respect. I note that even the Communist countries seem to have been shamed into providing some sort of food aid for Ethiopia. My hon. Friend's comments on long-term agriculture are correct, and I should stress that within the Overseas Development Administration I attach great importance to the development of natural resources in Africa, and believe that we have an enormous amount to contribute. I regard that as one of my real priorities.

**Mr. Donald Stewart** (Western Isles): Although I welcome the aid that the Minister has outlined, is he aware that there is widespread feeling in the country that Government aid was minimal and lethargic until the Government were galvanised into action by public opinion? Is he further aware that the public are concerned about the EEC's grain surplus on the one hand and the starvation in Ethiopia on the other? In that respect, I welcome the Minister's assurance that he will put pressure on the EEC to release grain. Is he aware that people are now looking towards the wealthier nations of the West to assist in the long term in raising the standard of living in Third world countries permanently, and not only when there is famine or crisis?

**Mr. Raison:** People may accuse us of being lethargic, but the facts that I have tried to set out show very clearly that we have been involved in, and committed to, providing aid for a long time. I can only repeat that we are in a sense fortunate to have grain surpluses in the EC. At least there is a substantial supply of food available and through the EC's institutions we are doing much to ensure that that supply is available.

We all know that once we have got to grips with the short-term problem of the famine there is still an important

long-term problem. That is why we put a very high priority on the long-term development of agriculture and natural resources in Africa and other parts of the world that may face famine.

**Sir Peter Emery** (Honiton): Although I accept that the Government are doing a considerable amount, will my right hon. Friend make it clear that the problem of starvation in Africa is much larger than any one country can cope with? There is thus a considerable need for this Government to play a major role, along with Europe and the United Nations, in helping to resolve the problem? Will he look at the great difficulty of dispersing food when it reaches Ethiopia? This summer, I flew over the country and saw that it is almost impossible to get lorries and transport into the areas in greatest need. Does my right hon. Friend realise that this summer there were more than 24 helicopters on the airfield at Asmara, which had been provided for the Marxist regime by the Russians? Will he work on the possibility of getting the Ethiopian Government—in co-operation with the Russians—to use those helicopters to distribute food throughout the most dispersed areas of Ethiopia?

**Mr. Raison:** I agree that working together internationally is the only way of providing the quantities necessary. We have given a lead in that respect, but others are bound to be involved. The distribution of food in Ethiopia is very difficult. I believe that several aircraft that belong to the Ethiopian Government, but which have been supplied from Russian or Communist sources, have not been fully used in helping to resolve the food aid problem. I understand that they are changing their policy and that they will make the aircraft available, and I certainly hope that that is so.

With regard to the exact airfields from which our Hercules aircraft should operate, that is exactly what the RAF officers at present in Ethiopia are finding out, and will be reporting on immediately.

**Mr. Guy Barnett** (Greenwich): Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that what is happening in Ethiopia today is a devastating indictment of this country and of rich countries in general in not taking seriously the objectives of the 1974 world food conference? Is he aware that, during the last decade, the number of hungry people in the world has doubled, to 500 million? Will the Government do everything they can, through the United Nations and the EC, to get the problem properly tackled on an international scale?

**Mr. Raison:** We have been doing many things but it is true that there is still an enormous problem to be faced. As I hope I have made completely clear already, my Department is dedicated to doing all it can to develop the proper functioning of agriculture throughout the countries which are at risk. That is our prime objective. It is shared, I think, by the World Bank and many other international and national organisations, and we must accelerate our efforts in that regard.

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IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 264 OF 30 OCTOBER 1984  
INFO IMMEDIATE O D A  
F C O TELNO 261 AND YOUR TELNO 309: BA TRI-STAR  
1. FOLLOWING IS THE CARGO MANIFEST FOR SUPPLIES BEING SENT ON BA  
TRI-STAR DEPARTING WEDNESDAY 31 OCTOBER HEATHROW AIRPORT 2230 HOURS:  
SUGAR 2 TONNES  
RICE 3 TONNES  
CONDENSED MILK 2 TONNES  
FLOUR 2 1/4 TONNES  
HORLICKS MALTED MILK POWDER 2 TONNES  
HIGH ENERGY BISCUITS (WEIGHT NOT ADVISED YET)  
VARIOUS CLOTHING, PLASTIC SHEETING AND EMERGENCY FEEDING KITS  
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MR JOHNSON  
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)

COPIES TO:

MR BUIST )  
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MR R BROWNING )  
MR H ARBUTHNOTT )

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PP ADDIS ABABA

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FM FCO 301345Z OCT 84

TO PRIORITY ADDIS ABABA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 263 OF 30 OCTOBER

INFO PRIORITY ODA, MODUK (DS8), UKMIS GENEVA, NAIROBI (EADD),  
WASHINGTON

1120

YOUR TELNO 310, PARA 4: HERCULES FOR ICRC

1. YES, FOR ONE MONTH. THE PLANE IS EXPECTED TO START  
OPERATING ON 8 NOVEMBER. IT WILL PROBABLY BE FRENCH REGISTERED.

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FM FCO 301115Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 262 OF 30 OCTOBER 1984

INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK

RAF HERCULES: VISAS FOR CREWS AND GROUND STAFF

1. AS YOU KNOW, ABOUT 100 RAF PERSONNEL WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THIS OPERATION. MOD WOULD PREFER THESE PERSONNEL TO OBTAIN VISAS ON THEIR ARRIVAL, BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY OF ASSEMBLING THE PASSPORTS AND PRESENTING THEM TO THE ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY IN TIME. WE ALSO FEEL THAT, UNLESS THE AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED PRIOR INSTRUCTIONS FROM ADDIS TO ISSUE VISAS, HE IS LIABLE TO TAKE FRIGHT.

2. GRATEFUL TO KNOW URGENTLY WHETHER OUR PREFERRED PROCEDURE IS LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES. IF NOT, PLEASE TRY TO SECURE SOONEST AN INSTRUCTION FROM RRC TO THE EMBASSY.

*PBmBWA 57/534/01*  
*2/4/84*

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FM ADDIS ABABA 301050Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE DOE LONDON

TELEGRAM NUMBER DOELB 002 OF 30 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE FCO (FOR EAD), ODA (FOR EWAD AND DISASTER UNIT)

FOR HAZELTON 1A/1E.

YOUR TELNO DOEMS 007: BRITISH AIRLINE RELIEF FLIGHTS TO ETHIOPIA.

1. EAST AFRICAN DEPT, FCO, CAN TELL YOU THE NUMEROUS PROBLEMS WE ARE TRYING TO COPE WITH OVER THE BA FLIGHT ORGANISED BY MR MAXWELL (DAILY MIRROR) DUE AT ADDIS ABABA ON 4 NOVEMBER.
2. WE KNOW OF NO OTHER BRITISH CIVILIAN FLIGHTS, APART FROM A TRADE WINDS 707 (ORGANISED BY MR ROWLAND OF LONHRO) WHICH ARRIVED TODAY. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ANY OTHER AIRLINES PLANNING TO SEND AIRCRAFT WITH RELIEF SUPPLIES TO ETHIOPIA SHOULD URGENTLY CONSULT EITHER EAST AFRICAN DEPT IN THE FCO, OR EAST AND WEST AFRICAN DEPARTMENT IN OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION, WHO I TRUST WILL UNDERTAKE NECESSARY INITIAL COORDINATION. IT WILL BE DISASTROUS IF THE ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES FIND THEMSELVES OVERWHELMED BY UNCOORDINATED AND UNRELATED DEMANDS FOR CLEARANCE FOR NUMEROUS FLIGHTS, HOWEVER WELL-INTENTIONED THE SPONSORS.

3. GRATEFUL FOR EARLIEST POSSIBLE INFORMATION BY TELEGRAM ABOUT OTHER FLIGHTS LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE. I SUGGEST SPONSORS SHOULD BE TOLD TO COORDINATE THEIR ARRANGEMENTS CLOSELY WITH ONE OF THE UK RELIEF ORGANISATIONS, PREFERABLY SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND OR OXFAM, WHO ALONE CAN MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO RECEIVE, HANDLE AND DISTRIBUTE RELIEF SUPPLIES ARRIVING HERE. CONSULTATION WITH OXFAM OR SCF WILL ALSO BE ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE THAT USEFUL RATHER THAN USELESS SUPPLIES ARE DESPATCHED. THERE IS A LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS OF THIS KIND WHICH ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES CAN ACCEPT AND HANDLE AT ONE TIME. SOME SPACING WILL BE ESSENTIAL.

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COPIES TO:

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Copy psc to  
Mr Innes MAED

Mr Holmes  
NENAD

EWAD+DU

ODA

For 57/534/01  
1/11/84

DE : C.C.E. BRUXELLES - TLX1 - SERVICE TELEX  
A : MIN OVERSEAS - LONDON  
REF: 17:56 29-10-64 CCCC34399 - CC0034539

TLX 189649/VIII/B 8/89

0500/25300 ESTR EI  
MR BRENDAN SCANNELL  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION DIVISION  
DEPT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS - DUBLIN

041/8865452 AABN D  
MR NOELDECKE AUSWAERTIGES AMT - BONN - DR KRUSE

041/8869452 BMZ  
DR KIRCHHOF  
BUNDESMINISTERIUM FUER WIRTSCHAFTLICHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT - BONN

041/886645 BMF  
MR HILLER  
BUNDESMINISTERIUM DER FINANZEN - BONN

051/263907 ODMLDN G  
MISS CHERRY - MS. J.V. HANNA  
OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT - LONDON

055/31292 ETR DK  
MR B.V. BLOEND, MR ANDERS SCRUP RASMUSSEN, MRS ANNA SOGAARD MADDEN  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS - COPENHAGUE

DR D.W. EVERTS  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS (VIA NLPVEG) DEN HAAG

26125 NLPVEG (MR VAN LOOPIK) BRUXELLES

21745 EGBRU (MR BAUER) BRUXELLES

25681 UKEOBR (MR BLOOMFIELD) BRUXELLES

64434 DANREP B (MR JOERGEN MAERSK PEDERSEN) BRUXELLES

26093 IVERN B (MR W.D. CONNOLLY) BRUXELLES

216326 YPEO GR ATHENES  
MRS TAMIOLAKIS, MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY - ATHENES

218213 - MR G. TERZIS - ATHENES

218213 YPEX GR  
MINISTERE AFFAIRES ETRANGERES, DIRECTION GENERALE DES  
COMMUNAUTES EUROPEENNES - ATHENES

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23603 DELGRE (M. DIMITRIOU, MME PAPADOPETROU-TSINGOS) BRUXELLES

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ATTENTION M. MARSAN  
COPIE : MM. DENIAU, SCHAFFAUSER  
MINISTERE AFFAIRES ETRANGERES - PARIS

COPIE : MINISTERE ECONOMIE ET BUDGETS  
SGCI 201106 - M. ROCHEBILIERE - M. LUTTON, PARIS

043/610429 MAE RM  
M. MINISTRO MASSIMO CURCIO, M. MARIO BONDIOLI OSIO  
DIPARTIMENTO COOPERAZIONE ALLO SVILUPPO  
MINISTERO AFFARI ESTERI - ROMA

0402/1702 AFETR LUX  
MINISTERE AFFAIRES ETRANGERES - M. SPAUTZ - LUXEMBOURG

*Mr Wyatt 7/1151a.*  
*Mr Winter*

*fi*  
*fvH*  
*5/11*



23979 BELEX B  
MME VERVALCKE  
COPIE : DIRECTION P  
COPIE : DIRECTION C (M. FOBE)  
COPIE : M. BELLEMANS  
ADMINISTRATION COOPERATION AU DEVELOPPEMENT  
MINISTERE AFFAIRES ETRANGERES - BRUXELLES

21156 DELBEL (M. SMETS - M. NOTERDAEME) - BRUXELLES

21265 DEFRA (M. ADHEMAR) - BRUXELLES

21476 ITRAP B (M. OLIVIERI, M. ANTONINI) - BRUXELLES

21707 RPLUX B - M. J. WELTER - BRUXELLES

2790 - MINISTERE DES FINANCES - M. MERSCH - BRUXELLES

26125 - M. C.P.N. VAN STEKELENBURG - BRUXELLES

202363 F COPCENT - ML. THOMAS - PARIS

31326 - T.A.V. M. PETIT HET HOOFD DIE/AE EN DAL/EG  
S'GRAVENHAGE

3530 BANKEU LU - MR SILVAIN - LUXEMBOURG

21711 CONSEIL MINISTRES - M. VIGNES - M. EISENBERG - BRUXELLES

R E T R A N S M I S S I O N

24504 EECB EI

MR. MOLINIER

+ MME BACCAERT

26.10.1984

IMMEDIATE

TO EEC COMMISSION BRUSSELS FROM H.Q. DEPT FOREIGN AFFAIRS DUBLIN  
FOR G. MOLINIER

SUBJECT --- IRISH GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS FAMINE  
RELIEF IN ETHIOPIA.

PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT  
HAS ALLOCATED AN ADDITIONAL QUARTER OF A MILLION  
POUNDS TOWARDS THE RELIEF OF FAMINE IN EHT

XXX ETHIOPIA

A SUBSTANTIAL PROPORTION OF THIS WILL BE ALLOCATED THROUGH  
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS.

ENDS.....

EWAD -E8010.  
ECD.

24504 EECB EI

*Mr Hault*

*Ar Ockup* <sup>1151</sup><sub>203</sub> *WJE*  
FROM : M C McCULLOCH  
PS/Mr Raison

DATE : 29 OCTOBER 1984

PS/Secretary of State (Mr Budd)

LETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY AND  
OTHERS ON ETHIOPIA

You will know from Charles Powell's letter of today that the Prime Minister asked for a longer reply to the Archbishop's letter of 25 October. I attach a revised draft for you to send to 10 Downing Street.

M C McCulloch  
29 October 1983

PS In view of the time factor, I am sending a copy of this directly to Charles Powell.

Ei/1151.

APS/Secretary of State

Charles Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

In your letter of today about our relief effort for Ethiopia, you asked for a revised draft reply for the Prime Minister to send to the letter she had from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster and the Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council. I attach such a draft.

## DRAFT LETTER FOR SIGNATURE BY THE PRIME MINISTER

To:

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury

1077 Thank you for the letter which you, together with the Cardinal Archbishop and the Moderator of the Free Church, sent on 25 October about Ethiopia. As you know, Her Majesty's Government and the nation as a whole share your concern about the human disaster in that country.

During the last two years, we have given substantial help to the Government and people of Ethiopia in their fight against famine. This includes bilateral food aid and disaster relief and food aid and emergency financial assistance from the European Community. The total cost to the British aid programme in the past two years is nearly £13 million (£7.8 million through the Community, £3.7 million bilateral food aid, £1.2 million disaster relief). Much of our aid, both bilateral and through the Community, has been given in close cooperation with voluntary agencies whose efforts have been magnificent. We have already increased this substantially by a further 6,000 tonnes of grain and £5 million for Ethiopia (and other drought-stricken countries in Africa). In addition we have offered the use of Hercules aircraft and two RAF officers have left for Addis Ababa to look into the practical arrangements.

I have also been in touch with Dr Fitzgerald to urge on him the need for further action by the European Community, and active consideration is being given in Brussels to an emergency programme of some £20 million of which the British share is some £4.5 million for food and transport. We are also proposing an emergency debate at the World Food Programme meeting which has just started in Rome, with emphasis on WFP's coordinating and monitoring role.

I can assure you that the Government are treating this calamity with the utmost seriousness and urgency.

Volume 65

E 801A.  
P.A.

1150a.

No. 211

John Leslie  
7/11/84

EWA 57/334/01



EXTRACTS FROM:

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
OFFICIAL REPORT

# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

Monday 29 October 1984



---

LONDON  
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE  
£1.50 net

## OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT

## Ethiopia

**Mr. Randall** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what appreciation is available to him of the adequacy of the proposed United Kingdom contribution to the relief of famine in Ethiopia.

**Mr. Raison:** In deciding the level of our contribution we took into account assessments provided by our ambassador and by international and voluntary organisations on the needs and on the possibilities for effective assistance to Ethiopia. The full needs may not yet be known but we shall continue to assess what we can best do to help. The adequacy of our efforts will depend on others taking their share of the burden. This should include not only the European Community and the United States, who are already responding, but also the Soviet Union and its allies.

**Mr. Burt** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what food surpluses currently exist in the European Community; which are considered suitable for distribution in Ethiopia in view of the current disaster; and whether he will press for their distribution.

**Mr. Raison:** The European Community is now more than self-sufficient in several commodities. Intervention stocks exist for cereals, butter, skimmed milk powder and meat. We consider that only cereals would be suitable for distribution in Ethiopia on a significant scale.

Present commitments of European Community food aid to Ethiopia draw on existing stocks. We are urging the Community to provide further food and other aid, as well as giving food and financial assistance ourselves.

**Sir Frederic Bennett** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what information he

has about the amount of food and other economics aid given to Ethiopia by each industrialised country in each of the last five years.

**Mr. Raison:** This information is not immediately available. I will write to my hon. Friend.

## Overseas Aid

**Mr. Stanbrook** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what is the value, per capita of the population of the countries concerned, of British official aid to foreign countries, Commonwealth countries and United Kingdom dependencies over the past five years, respectively.

**Mr. Raison:** The details requested are as follows:

*British gross expenditure on overseas aid per capita of population: 1979-83 (£s), based on population statistics for 1981 (the latest year available).*

|                                  | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Non-Commonwealth                 | 0.07 | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.09 | 0.07 |
| Independent Commonwealth members | 0.42 | 0.45 | 0.49 | 0.34 | 0.40 |
| Dependencies                     | 4.68 | 3.63 | 3.13 | 4.16 | 4.91 |

## Dependent Territories

**Mr. Stanbrook** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs which dependent territories of the United Kingdom have received grants in aid of recurrent expenditure and of capital development, respectively; what are the total sums involved in each case for the past five years; and what is the value per capita of the population in each case.

**Mr. Raison:** The information requested is as follows:

|                             | Budgetary aid |                 | Other capital aid |                 | Technical co-operation |                 | Total aid |                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|
|                             | £000          | per capita<br>£ | £000              | per capita<br>£ | £000                   | per capita<br>£ | £000      | per capita<br>£ |
| 1979                        |               |                 |                   |                 |                        |                 |           |                 |
| Anguilla                    | 321           | 45.86           | 542               | 77.43           | 197                    | 28.14           | 1,060     | 151.43          |
| Belize                      | 0             | 0.00            | 6,867             | 46.09           | 587                    | 3.94            | 7,454     | 50.03           |
| Bermuda                     | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 15                     | 0.25            | 15        | 0.25            |
| British Virgin Islands      | 0             | 0.00            | 522               | 52.20           | 259                    | 25.90           | 781       | 78.10           |
| Cayman Islands              | 0             | 0.00            | 149               | 9.31            | 134                    | 8.38            | 283       | 17.69           |
| Falkland Islands            | 0             | 0.00            | 442               | 221.00          | 473                    | 236.50          | 915       | 457.50          |
| Gibraltar                   | 0             | 0.00            | 2,788             | 92.93           | 426                    | 14.20           | 3,214     | 107.13          |
| Hong Kong                   | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 185                    | 0.04            | 185       | 0.04            |
| Montserrat                  | 138           | 11.50           | 238               | 19.83           | 152                    | 12.67           | 528       | 44.00           |
| St. Helena and Dependencies | 2,771         | 554.20          | 782               | 156.40          | 382                    | 76.40           | 3,935     | 787.00          |
| Turks and Caicos Islands    | 269           | 38.43           | 579               | 82.71           | 167                    | 23.86           | 1,015     | 145.00          |
| Vanuatu                     | 4,267         | 35.56           | 1,160             | 9.67            | 1,253                  | 10.44           | 6,680     | 55.67           |
| 1980                        |               |                 |                   |                 |                        |                 |           |                 |
| Anguilla                    | 196           | 28.02           | 553               | 79.06           | 241                    | 34.42           | 991       | 141.51          |
| Belize                      | 0             | 0.00            | 3,721             | 24.97           | 729                    | 4.89            | 4,450     | 29.86           |
| Bermuda                     | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 28                     | 0.45            | 28        | 0.45            |
| British Virgin Islands      | 0             | 0.00            | 955               | 95.51           | 276                    | 27.64           | 1,232     | 123.16          |
| Cayman Islands              | 0             | 0.00            | 265               | 16.55           | 178                    | 11.13           | 443       | 27.68           |
| Falkland Islands            | 0             | 0.00            | 587               | 293.60          | 427                    | 213.69          | 1,015     | 507.29          |
| Gibraltar                   | 0             | 0.00            | 4,472             | 149.06          | 476                    | 15.87           | 4,948     | 164.93          |
| Hong Kong                   | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 376                    | 0.07            | 376       | 0.07            |
| Montserrat                  | 194           | 16.18           | 804               | 66.97           | 211                    | 17.58           | 1,209     | 100.72          |
| St. Helena and Dependencies | 2,945         | 589.06          | 334               | 66.74           | 516                    | 103.28          | 3,795     | 759.00          |
| Turks and Caicos Islands    | 13            | 1.84            | 849               | 121.27          | 412                    | 58.89           | 1,274     | 182.00          |
| 1981                        |               |                 |                   |                 |                        |                 |           |                 |
| Anguilla                    | 202           | 28.87           | 816               | 116.56          | 278                    | 39.74           | 1,296     | 185.17          |
| Bermuda                     | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 12                     | 0.19            | 12        | 0.19            |

|                             | Budgetary aid |                 | Other capital aid |                 | Technical co-operation |                 | Total aid |                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|
|                             | £000          | per capita<br>£ | £000              | per capita<br>£ | £000                   | per capita<br>£ | £000      | per capita<br>£ |
| British Virgin Islands      | 0             | 0.00            | 945               | 94.51           | 295                    | 29.55           | 1,241     | 124.06          |
| Cayman Islands              | 0             | 0.00            | 21                | 1.33            | 178                    | 11.12           | 199       | 12.45           |
| Falkland Islands            | 0             | 0.00            | 339               | 169.37          | 719                    | 359.61          | 1,058     | 528.98          |
| Gibraltar                   | 0             | 0.00            | 3,579             | 119.31          | 430                    | 14.34           | 4,010     | 133.65          |
| Hong Kong                   | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 245                    | 0.05            | 245       | 0.05            |
| Montserrat                  | 0             | 0.00            | 819               | 68.27           | 307                    | 25.62           | 1,127     | 93.90           |
| St. Helena and Dependencies | 3,054         | 610.76          | 471               | 94.27           | 537                    | 107.45          | 4,062     | 812.49          |
| Turks and Caicos Islands    | 692           | 98.83           | 2,105             | 300.78          | 564                    | 80.62           | 3,362     | 480.23          |
| 1982                        |               |                 |                   |                 |                        |                 |           |                 |
| Anguilla                    | 138           | 19.65           | 740               | 105.74          | 181                    | 25.91           | 1,059     | 151.29          |
| Bermuda                     | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 0                      | 0.00            | 0         | 0.00            |
| British Virgin Islands      | 0             | 0.00            | 1,183             | 118.35          | 288                    | 28.77           | 1,471     | 147.11          |
| Cayman Islands              | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 34                     | 2.13            | 34        | 2.13            |
| Falkland Islands            | 0             | 0.00            | 3,333             | 1,666.28        | 693                    | 346.46          | 4,025     | 2,012.74        |
| Gibraltar                   | 0             | 0.00            | 1,400             | 46.68           | 498                    | 16.59           | 1,898     | 63.28           |
| Hong Kong                   | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 199                    | 0.04            | 199       | 0.04            |
| Montserrat                  | 0             | 0.00            | 1,357             | 113.12          | 466                    | 38.79           | 1,823     | 151.92          |
| St. Helena and Dependencies | 4,255         | 850.92          | 992               | 198.48          | 587                    | 117.49          | 5,834     | 1,166.89        |
| Turks and Caicos Islands    | 1,162         | 166.02          | 3,977             | 568.15          | 577                    | 82.43           | 5,716     | 816.61          |
| 1983                        |               |                 |                   |                 |                        |                 |           |                 |
| Anguilla                    | 120           | 17.20           | 1,075             | 153.52          | 231                    | 32.96           | 1,426     | 203.68          |
| Bermuda                     | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 33                     | 0.54            | 33        | 0.54            |
| British Virgin Islands      | 0             | 0.00            | 870               | 87.04           | 290                    | 29.03           | 1,161     | 116.07          |
| Falkland Islands            | 0             | 0.00            | 7,950             | 3,974.92        | 1,103                  | 551.74          | 9,053     | 4,526.66        |
| Gibraltar                   | 0             | 0.00            | 1,118             | 37.25           | 1,234                  | 41.14           | 2,352     | 78.39           |
| Hong Kong                   | 0             | 0.00            | 0                 | 0.00            | 203                    | 0.04            | 203       | 0.04            |
| Montserrat                  | 0             | 0.00            | 631               | 52.61           | 410                    | 34.16           | 1,041     | 86.77           |
| St. Helena and Dependencies | 4,859         | 971.85          | 1,021             | 204.28          | 653                    | 130.54          | 6,533     | 1,306.68        |
| Turks and Caicos Islands    | 1,247         | 178.20          | 2,233             | 319.06          | 736                    | 105.19          | 4,217     | 602.45          |

#### Zambia (Pension and Interest Payments)

**Mr. Latham** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what discussions he has had with the Government of Zambia regarding the payment to British subjects resident in the United Kingdom of pensions or interest upon capital lawfully due to them from Zambia; and whether he will make a statement.

**Mr. Raison:** The Zambian Government pay interest on blocked capital when it is due under the terms of the original contract, but not otherwise. The overall problems of delays in securing the external payment of remittances of all kinds from Zambia was a major theme in our talks with President Kaunda during his state visit in March last year. He gave assurances that Zambia would accord this problem a high priority. The subject was again raised by my hon. Friend the Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, during his recent visit to Zambia. Zambia's acute shortage of foreign exchange is bound to be a severe limiting factor.

Pensions are not generally affected by the exchange control measures and despite some administrative delays Zambian pensions are being remitted externally. We have entered into an agreement with the Zambian Government to take over responsibility for the payment of the pensions of certain former public servants who were recruited by, or under the direct auspices of, the Secretary of State for employment on expatriate terms. We hope this will come into force in 1985.

#### Zimbabwe (Pension and Interest Payments)

**Mr. Latham** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what discussions he has had with the Government of Zimbabwe regarding the payment

to British subjects resident in the United Kingdom of pensions or interest upon capital lawfully due to them from Zimbabwe; and whether he will make a statement.

**Mr. Raison:** I raised the problems caused by Zimbabwe's exchange control measures during my discussions with the Zimbabwean Finance Minister in May. My right hon. Friend the Prime Minister was also able to discuss this problem with Mr. Mugabe during his visit in July, and my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs again raised the matter with the Zimbabwean Minister for National Supplies in September. We understand that the Zimbabwe authorities have recently made some improvements in their handling of appeals on the grounds of hardship. As regards interest, this accrues locally on blocked capital and the Zimbabwe Government Bond Scheme, which came into operation on 1 October, provides for the remittability of interest on the bonds.

Pensions are not affected by the exchange control measures. Their payment and remittability is safeguarded in the Zimbabwe Constitution and apart from occasional administrative delays the Zimbabwe Government's record has been good.

#### Lomé Convention

**Mr. Wareing** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs if he will make a statement on the recent Lomé convention renewal talks in Brussels.

**Mr. Raison:** At the fifth Ministerial negotiating conference in Brussels from 9 to 13 October, substantial progress was made on most issues. The Community announced its financial envelope for Lomé III. Agreement remains to be reached on a limited number of points. The

.4103

1150.

W/E

FROM: D G OSBORNE

DATE: 29 OCTOBER 1984

cc Ethiopia Drought Group

1. Sir Crispin Tickell
2. PS/Minister

*29/10 Not seen by the Minister before  
forwarding to No 10.*

LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

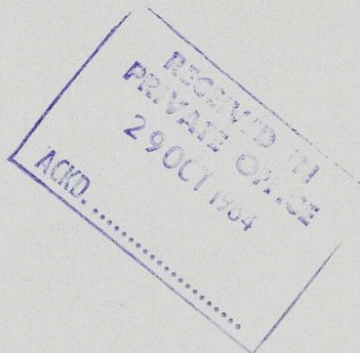
I submit a revised draft for signature by the Prime Minister.

*29/10.*

*DGO*

D G Osborne  
Eastern and Western Africa Department  
29 October 1984

*Greg Marshall*  
*29/10*



5309

DRAFT

File No.

Your Ref.

Addressed

*De Most Reverend and Right Hon. the Lord Archbishop, The Archbishop of Canterbury*  
*Re Church*

E/1150

Tick as appropriate

S/O Letter

Unclass.

Official Letter

In Conf.

Despatch

Restricted

Minute

Conf.

Memo

Top Secret

For Signature by

The Prime Minister

TEL

Draft by *Multivolt 29/10*  
D G Osborne 29/10

ENCLOSURES

FURTHER ACTION AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

*Thank you for the letter which you, together with the Cardinal Archbishop and the Moderators of the Free Church, sent*

REFERENCES AND AMENDMENTS

~~Thank you for the letter which we on~~  
~~Thank you~~

Many thanks for your letter of 25 October about Ethiopia.

As you know, Her Majesty's Government and the nation as a whole share your concern about the human disaster in that country.

2. During the last two years, we have given substantial help to the Government and people of Ethiopia in their fight against famine. This includes bilateral food aid and disaster relief and food aid and emergency financial assistance from the European Community. <sup>The</sup> Total cost to the British aid programme in the past <sup>two years</sup> 18 months is nearly £13m (£7.8m through the <sup>Community</sup> ~~EEC~~, £3.7m bilateral food aid, £1.2m disaster relief). Much of our aid, both bilateral and through the Community, has been given in close cooperation with voluntary agencies whose efforts have been magnificent. We have already increased this substantially by a further 6000 tonnes of grain and £5m for Ethiopia (and other drought-stricken countries in Africa).

*In addition*  
*to look into the practical arrangements*  
*of which the British share is some £4.5m*  
*2 RAF officers have left for Addis Ababa*  
*W.F.P.*  
We have offered the use of Hercules aircraft and preparations are in hand for their early departure from Britain.

I have also been in touch with Dr Fitzgerald to urge on him the need for further action by the European Community, and active consideration is being given in Brussels to an emergency programme of some £20m for food and transport. We are also proposing an emergency debate at the World Food Programme meeting which has just started in Rome, with emphasis on its coordinating and monitoring role.

3. I can assure you that the Government are treating this calamity with the utmost seriousness and urgency.

Reference .....

1149.

W/E

FROM: D G OSBORNE

DATE: 29 OCTOBER 1984

Mr Browning

ETHIOPIA

/ Please see the attached copy of a minute I sent briefing Mr Buist.

2. Mr Buist spoke on Friday with Sir Crispin Tickell. I understand he plans to take Mr Graham-Harrison to Addis Ababa. Please may we discuss?

3. You may wish to sent Mr Buist some supplementary briefing or discuss with him over the phone in Naibori.



D G Osborne  
EWAD  
29 October 1984

E/1149.

UNCLASSIFIED

TELEGRAM SENT TO NAIROBI FOR EADD, 28 OCT

FOR GRAHAM-HARRISON FROM OSBORNE

ETHIOPIA: BRIEFING FOR BUIST. PLEASE PASS//COPY ADDIS ABABA

1. Purpose of visit is to liaise with Ambassador on assistance to be given to Ethiopia, to consider with him needs for staffing, to ascertain relations with other donors and agencies and prospects for coordination and to seek how our assistance can be made most effective.

2. Copies of telegrams to Addis have been sent to Nairobi and together with Telno 297 from Addis Ababa indicate what we propose to do. Announcement by the Secretary of State on 24 October of over 6,000 tonnes food aid for Ethiopia and £5 million in drought related assistance to Ethiopian and other African countries in need was followed by Prime Minister's Answer to a PQ on 25 October:

"We are urgently consulting our Ambassador in Addis Ababa on how the £5m can be put to the best possible use. We shall have to ship food and pay for its internal transport. We are providing lorries to facilitate unloading and are considering other equipment needed by the Port. We are also considering provision of drilling rigs to secure water supplies for relief camps. We shall continue to provide other forms of direct disaster relief, including medical supplies. Everything that can be done will be done."

3. Subsequently offer was made of RAF Hercules.

4. Together with offers made by Mr Raison to Commissioner Dawit and our readiness to respond to Ambassador's suggestions this gives the general framework. Best use of this assistance may require TCOs or short visits by Advisers/Consultants. Embassy will face demands for staff support, communications and transport.

Dr. Osborne

ETHIOPIA GROUP MEETING : TUESDAY 30 OCT

AGENDA : FCO/EAD ITEMS

1. Posts are now asking for update on what UK is doing eg  
Canberra has asked (rather peculiar phrasing)  
"Grateful for UK Community Aid plans"  
- Bruce drafting
2. Elliot in Gbervet - the claim about the  
attempt to bring down the GOE - we need to  
consider a response - Bruce will draft.
3. Report from HARARE "West tried to bring down  
GOE" - local daily headline - we need  
defensive line.

Shitten 29/10/84

4204

20

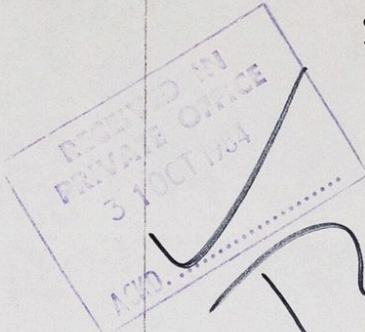
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
European Democratic Group

2 Queen Anne's Gate,  
London, SW1H 9AA  
Tel. (01) 222 1720  
(01) 222 1729  
Telex 91 7650 EDGLDN

1147 733

U/E

The Rt. Hon. Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP



*With the compliments of the Chairman*

ECD(E)

✓ PS  
PS/Mr. G. Kind  
PS/Mr. Ranson

Mr. Houston

29/10

1. Mr. Freeman *Mr. White* 1/74
2. Mr. Osborne

Mr. H. H. H.

PB on EWA 57/534/01

Dr

5/11

6.11.

Conservative and Unionist Party, GB  
Det konservative folkeparti, DK  
Ulster Unionist Party, N. Ireland



E 11147

EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC GROUP  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Chairman

SIR HENRY PLUMB DL MEP

LONDON

2 Queen Anne's Gate  
London, SW1H 9AA  
Tel. (01)222 1720  
(01)222 1729  
Telex 917650 EDGLDN

25 October 1984

P Barry Esq  
President in Office  
EEC Council of Ministers  
170 Rue de la Loi  
1040 Brussels

Dear Mr. Barry,

As you know, public and political attention in recent weeks has focused sharply on the Horn of Africa. The deteriorating famine situation in Ethiopia is giving increasing cause for concern and relief agencies are reporting that the available relief supplies are insufficient. Approximately 2 million people are beyond the reach of the relief organisations due to the continuing civil war being waged in the Tigre and Eritrea provinces.

In view of the gravity of the situation and the restraints placed on the relief operation by the civil war, may I request through you that the Foreign Ministers meeting in political co-operation examines the possibility of taking joint action with other major aid donors to secure a truce between the Ethiopian Government and the rebels/dissidents, in the first instance to ensure relief supplies can reach those in need. I hope and believe that the Community has a useful and positive role to play in alleviating suffering in Ethiopia and other parts of Africa; discussion within the framework of political co-operation would be an important first step in this direction.

Yours sincerely  
Henry Plumb.

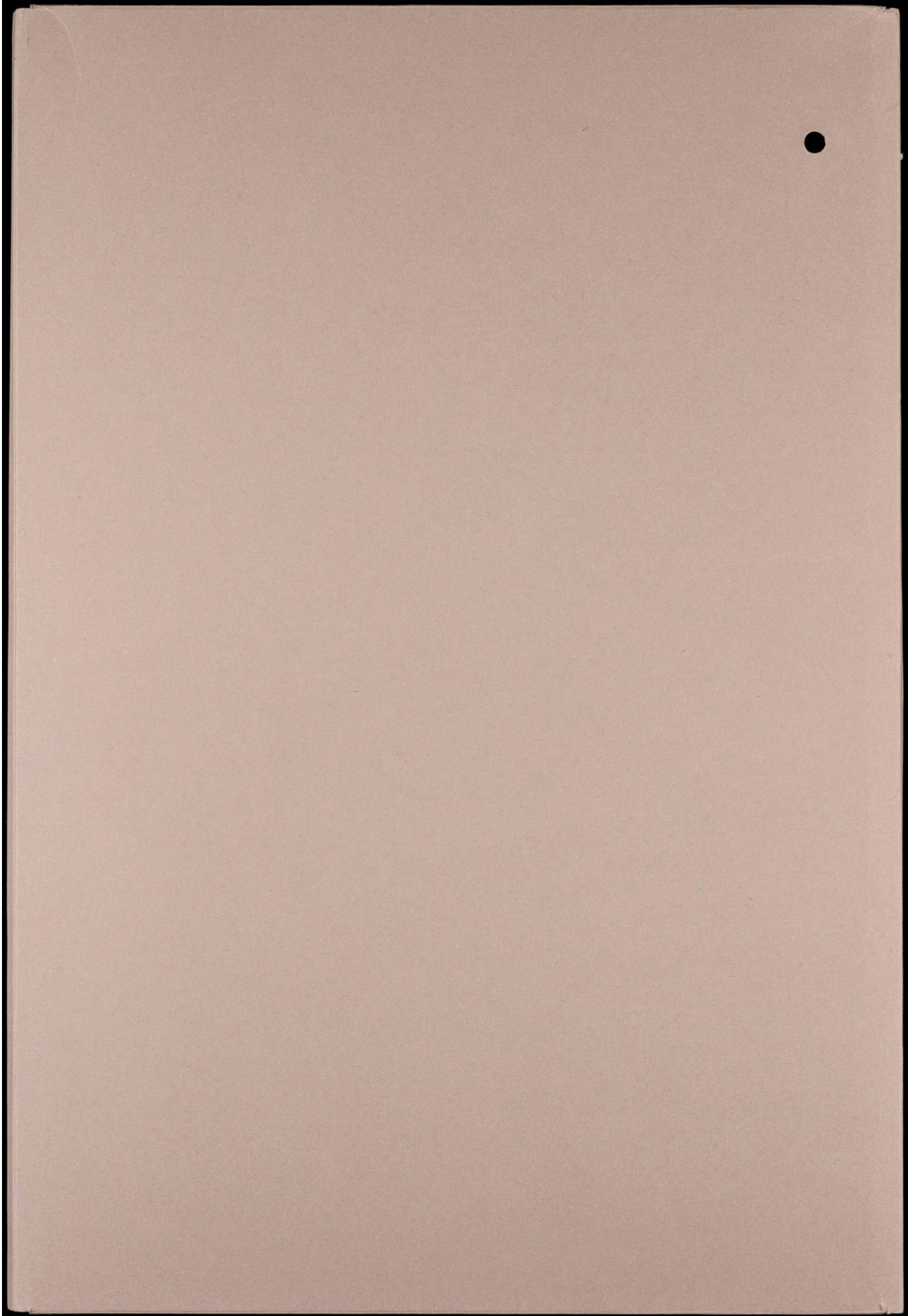
HENRY PLUMB

EWA 57/534/01 AD

CONFIDENTIAL

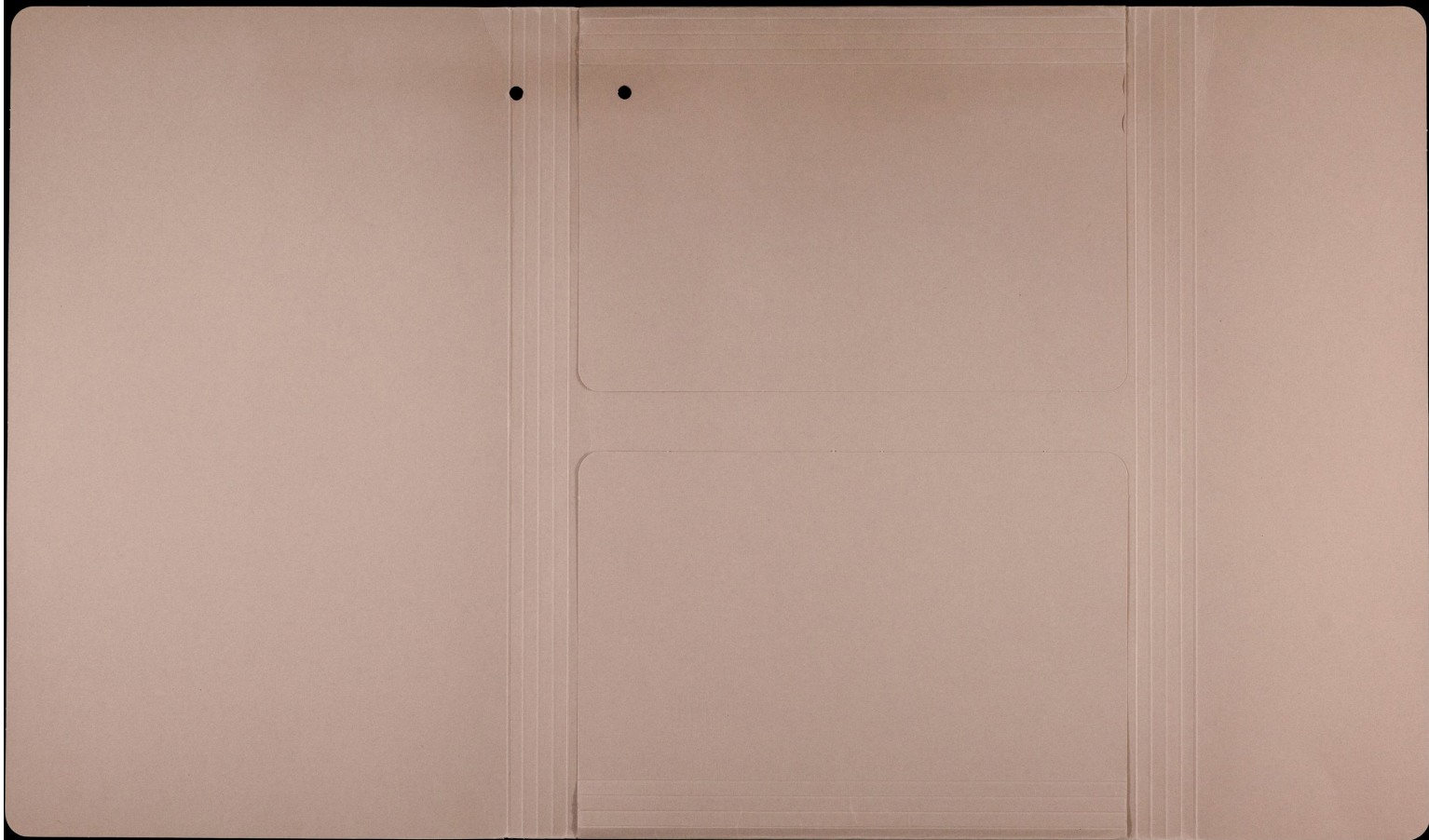
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CONFIDENTIAL



E  
1855

ODS3/30



#### Source Citation

Ethiopia: humanitarian aid, including food aid and disaster relief. January 1-December 31, 1984. MS Department of Technical Co-operation, and Successive Overseas Development Bodies: OD 53: Overseas Development Administration: Eastern and Western Africa Department: Registered Files (EWA Series) OD 53/30. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Environmental History, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/BFVUDM555541627/GDCS?u=omni&sid=bookmark-GDCS&pg=1](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/BFVUDM555541627/GDCS?u=omni&sid=bookmark-GDCS&pg=1). Accessed 14 Jan. 2025.

**Gale Document Number:**GALE|BFVUDM555541627